FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes attacked the outskirts of Baghdad and the town of Ba'qubah, 35 km northeast of the Iraqi capital, hitting a "silo" and other predetermined targets, IRNA announced on 15 February. An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement carried by INA, said two Iranian aircraft raided Ba'qubah, killing 3 people and injuring 18 others, but he did not mention an attack on Baghdad.

The Iranian raid came after Iraqi missile attacks and air raids on six cities in western Iran the previous day killed 100 and wounded 435 others, according to Tehran radio. After launching its attacks on 14 February, Iraq issued a Foreign Ministry statement, broadcast by Baghdad radio, announcing that, in response to an appeal from exiled Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi and as a "good-will" gesture, Iraqi forces would halt their attacks for 1 week.

President 'Ali Khamene'i warned Iraq in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran might decide to hit any Iraqi city, including Baghdad, apart from the holy cities of Najaf, Karbala, Al-Kazimiyah, and Samara. Tehran radio's Arabic service likewise urged Iraqi civilians to leave their towns and head for the four holy cities. Iraq's culture and information minister responded to threats against Iraqi cities by warning that when its moratorium expires, Iraq will teach Iran's leaders "the lessons they deserve," INA reported. Iraq has not used all its weapons, he said, and the Iraqi Air Force and missile system can reach most Iranian cities, including Tehran.

A military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio said 29 Iraqis were killed and 126 others were wounded by Iranian shelling of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, and other Iraqi cities 13-14 February. IRNA reported 5 killed and 18 others wounded in a bombardment of Khorramshahr in which Iraqi artillery reportedly used chemical shells. In another development, a Jerusalem Corps headquarters communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces advanced further into northern Iraq, capturing villages near the Darband-i Khan dam.

Lebanon

Military Situation — The Lebanese Army effected "a redeployment" of its forces to new positions in the Ash-Shahhar hills south of Beirut after repeated attacks by "gunmen," a military source announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. Voice of the Mountain, the station of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), said PSP fighters scored a "decisive victory" in capturing the villages of 'Ayn Ksur, 'Bayh, Al-Binnayh, Kafr Matta, and Bi'wirta and taking control of the Khaldah triangle. The PSP radio stated that a Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter was downed during the fighting, but a Lebanese military source cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon denied this claim. Some 2,500 Christian refugees and a number of Lebanese soldiers fled southward into the area controlled by the IDF in the wake of the advance by PSP and allied forces, according to Jerusalem radio.

In another development, Radio Free Lebanon reported that the head of the Phalange Party's Jubayl branch was assassinated near Beirut.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil and former President Sulayman Franjiyah met and agreed to continue contacts and prepare for the National Dialogue Conference, Beirut radio reported. The radio said the meeting is expected to produce "important results" and subsequently disclosed that Al-Jumayyil will adopt "a certain position" in an attempt to solve the Lebanese crisis. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio likewise said Al-Jumayyil will shortly take an "important" step and cited press reports that the president has expressed readiness "in principle" to revoke the agreement with Israel and bring in UN forces.

A "well-informed source" in Amman revealed that the PSP and the Amal Movement will announce a joint command to supervise security in West Beirut, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Israel

Israel has no objection to a UN force helping to solve Middle East problems, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Washington Meetings — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn, in remarks reported by Cairo radio, commented on their 14 February tripartite meeting with President Reagan. Mubarak underlined the importance of the Palestinian question and the need for mutual recognition by the Palestinians and the Israelis. Husayn expressed his "delight" at meeting Mubarak and said they had discussed regional and world issues as well as common objectives. Mubarak adviser Usamah al-Baz, in an interview reported by MENA, said the tripartite meeting did not necessarily mean that Jordan will join in the peace process in the Middle east.

King Husayn also held separate talks with the President to discuss bilateral issues and with Secretary of Defense Weinberger on possible supplies of "modern and sophisticated weapons," Amman radio and television reported. President Mubarak held bilateral talks with Reagan on the situation in Lebanon, events in the occupied West Bank, the escalation of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, and trouble spots in Africa, Cairo radio said.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat in Moscow — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held several meetings with the leaders and delegations in Moscow for the funeral of Yuriy Andropov, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. One such meeting was with GDR leader Erich Honecker, who reiterated his country's support for the PLO, the radio added. 'Arafat also met with Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio said, while Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported contacts with Soviet officials and members of the Israeli communist party.

Hawatimah Remarks — DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah, in 9 February remarks reported by Prague's *RUDE PRAVO*, charged that "irrefutable information" is available about a U.S.-Saudi agreement concerning the deployment "in vast desert areas" of Pershing II and cruise missiles, the technical installations for which will be built in the "near future."

Syria

Iranian Envoy Injured — The Iranian ambassador in Damascus sustained minor injuries when a parcel bomb exploded in his hands, Tehran radio reported. The action was carried out by "agents of the Zionist regime," according to "experts" in Damascus cited by the radio.

Cooperation With Iran — A memorandum of understanding on scientific, economic, technical, and planning cooperation was signed between Syria and Iran in Tehran on 14 February, SANA announced.

Meeting with Jallud — Visiting Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud held another meeting with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on 13 February, JANA reported.

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'Arafat Meets With Various Leaders in Mosocw

JN141756 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] visited Red Square in Moscow to pay his respects to the late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Moscow yesterday to participate in Andropov's funeral, which took place today in the presence of the leaders or representatives of more than 60 states.

This morning, brother leader Abu 'Ammar met in Moscow with GDR President Comrade Erich Honecker. Comrade Honecker reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian people's right to return to their land, to self-determination, and to establish their own independent state. The GDR president reconfirmed his country's absolute support for the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. The meeting between the two leaders was held in an atmosphere of positive understanding and relaxation, which further underlines the depth of GDR-Palestinian relations which are based on the common struggle against all forms of injustice, oppression, and racism.

Leader Abu 'Ammar also held several meetings with the heads of states and delegations now present in Moscow. He also held several meetings with USSR state and party officials. Abu 'Ammar also met with Comrade Meir Wilner and Comrade Tawfiq Tubi [from the Israeli Communist Party]. They discussed the political state of affairs in the Middle East and recent developments. Comrades Wilner and Tubi showed deep understanding of what is taking place in the region and voiced their concern over the grave situation in Lebanon in light of the recent battles.

Abu 'Ammar met in Moscow with Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the Arab conditions in general and the Palestine question in particular. Present at the meeting on the Palestinian side were Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and Brother 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, members of the PLO Executive Committee. Present on the Iraqi side was Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

DFLP's Hawatimah on Pershings to Saudi Arabia

AU141437 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 10 Feb 84 p 2

["MD"-signed report: "Need to Reinforce Unity"]

[Text] Prague, 9 Feb — "We possess irrefutable information about an agreement between the U.S. Department of Defense and the Ministry of Defense of Saudi Arabia concerning the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles. The technical installations for deploying these intermediate-range weapons will be built in the near future," Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], declared at a press conference in Prague on 9 February. He added that the United States believes that in Saudi Arabia and in Africa its plans will not run up against opposition as strong as in Western Europe, since the missiles will be deployed in vast desert areas.

Speaking about the situation in the Palestinian movement, N. Hawatimah said that unity of the PLO can be preserved and strengthened by means of political dialogue. He said that for this to happen, it is essential not to stop fighting for this unity on the basis of the resolutions of the PNC of last February (rejection of the Reagan plan and adoption of the Arab plan of Fes as a minimum — editor's note). According to the speaker, a broad-based conference should be convened to assess all questions of the movement's policy based on opposition to the Reagan plan. The second direction in which the endeavor must go, said N. Hawatimah, is an improvement in relations between the PLO and Syria "so that we struggle side by side for the liberation of Golan Heights and the occupied Palestinian territories." The DFLP secretary general believes that certain progress has been made in this endeavor in the past 2 months.

The Palestinian representative said, furthermore, that the interventionist units of NATO countries have made it their goal to weaken Lebanese and Palestinian progressive forces, strengthen Phalangists, and turn Lebanon into an American-Israeli protectorate. Lebanon was to become a springboard against progressive forces of the entire region. However, people's resistance led to the defeat of these plans. This defeat is embodied in Reagan's decision to withdraw the Marines from the mainland back to the ships, albeit the aggression continues on an even more intensive scale.

'Arafat Speech to Palestinian Students 12 Feb

LD142202 Algiers Voice of Palestine In Arabic 1702 GMT 13 Feb 84

["First part" of speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the opening of the Ninth Congress of Palestinian Students in Algiers 12 February — recorded]

[Excerpts] Brothers, (?my friend) Bouhara, brothers in the Algerian leadership, brothers and companions on the Palestinian march, the difficult, arduous and long road the road that will always be the road to Palestine: [cheers]

Brothers, we are aware of the fact that our march is arduous hard, long. You have always been a vanguard of this revolution. I would say to you that we are proud of you because you were among the first vanguards of this revolution who gave so many martyrs and heroes for the sake of this persistent and victorious march, God willing. [applause]

Brothers, I say: I was very pleased to listen to the speech of the chairman of the union. He spoke so clearly about whatever steps we take, whether military or political. We therefore proceed with our revolution from the slogan: God has mercy on a man who corrects 'Umar's deviation. On our march we take pride and cherish this democracy which is our path to victory. It is our path in this place in particular. We are proud of this place, Algeria, the country of the 1.5 million martyrs which opened, through its people and its president and the FLN party, its country for us to exercise free speech and have a free will and national independent decisionmaking. Our road is to Palestine, to Palestine, to Palestine. [applause]

Yes brothers, our road leads to Palestine, it is not the slaves who fight but the free, the free are the ones who fight. Therefore, you have defended this Palestinian national decisionmaking in the midst of this jungle, the jungle which wants to take away your Palestinian national decisionmaking.

Why? Let us pause here. Let us talk as strugglers to strugglers and revolutionaries to revolutionaries. I want you to recall our long sessions after the first Fes conference. After we returned from the first Fes conference and after the failure of the first Fes conference, many people or at least some people were quite pleased. But you ought to remember what I said. I said that the failed Fes would come back to haunt us. I also said that we were entering the dark tunnel. I also said that the balkanisation which Kissinger was mentioning in his speeches had begun in the area.

I would like to jog your memory. I said these words when we stood on 16 March 1982 in 'Alayh marking the anniversary of the martyr Kamal Junblatt. I said that we were entering a dark tunnel and that the military onslaught would reach Ad-Damur and Khaldah and 'Alayh. Many of my brothers in the joint Lebanese-Palestinian command said: Even 'Alayh? I said to them: Yes, 'Alayh. I will fight Sharon with you here in 'Alayh. And afterward came the price we had paid. When I said that the first Fes would come back to haunt us, we encountered this war which was American in decision and Zionist in implementation. They thought they could control this Palestinian revolution and put an end to it in 3 to 5 days. Sharon said 3 to 5 days and General Haig... they together drew up this plan against us. Then came Eytan and bragged and said: I will finish it in 48 days. They fought the longest of all the Arab-Israeli wars. One battle took 88 days. In that 88 days we and our Lebanese allies lost 72,000 martyrs and wounded; 17 camps were destroyed; 34 Lebanese villages and 4 towns, excluding Beirut, were destroyed. They continued. We left Beirut, Reagan thought... You should remember what the news said. It said that Reagan kept a picture of me leaving Beirut in his office because he had implemented the conspiracy to which regrettably some Arab sides agreed. I do not want to cause a lot of embarrassment or to talk too much, but I want to remember how my brothers in Algeria with the command of the Algerian Army had acted in order to try and execute a joint plan with the other Arab sides to reach us in Beirut and they were not successful.

It is probably the first time these words have been said. But you must understand that they entered history. We must also remember that despite our departure from Beirut we were able, together with our Lebanese allies, to wage the most outstanding battles of attrition which still continue. Thanks to God, to this moment, the battles of attrition continue. This war of attrition is the one which made Begin resign. His aides said that the major reason for his resignation was that they had not told him about the losses during the battle of Beirut and the battle of the south nor the losses in the battles of attrition and that he could not bear this great number which, for the first time, the Israeli army had suffered in any Arab-Israeli confrontation. You should all remember these words with me.

You should also remember with me the Reagan plan which they tried to impose on the Palestinian people. When we entered the second Fez conference this plan already had built its nests and it was dominating all the lobbies at the conference. They thought that we, from our weak position — or what they thought to be our weak position — could have the Reagan plan imposed on us so that we would adopt it at the second Fes conference. I am not in a position to say (?which) Arab sides said: Let us accept the Reagan plan. What they said was on record. We rejected this plan and together with our brothers and friends inside the conference said that we must adopt a plan — the Arab peace plan — in which the five points you surely remember were included. We said that we must include them in the plan as an amendment.

We not only insisted on this but we also insisted that any solution should come via the Security Council. This is why we said that the seven-man committee should hold consultations with the permanent members of the Security Council. Why did we insist on this? We insisted in order to enable our friends, first of all the Soviet Union and China, to be partners in any solution in the Middle East.

After we came out of the PNC session in Algiers, the attempt to impose the Reagan plan on us began once again. This is very important. When we met in Algiers the brothers who were with me at the meeting, whether members of the Central Committee or the Executive Committee or the Palestinian leadership as well as those here who were present in Algiers and in Kuwait know what I said to them. They remember what I said. I told them there was a threat. You either must accept what they want to impose on us or we will see what we saw in Beirut after the first Fes. Maybe some brothers today remember these words and remember that after we said no to the Reagan plan and no to Camp David, the attacks on the Palestinian revolution began.

[Passage indistinct] They wanted to mislead world public opinion and make an entire people disbelieve in its own revolution, the revolution which was a beacon, a miracle and epic battle, the epic battle of Beirut which they wanted to destroy and liquidate. This is what they wanted to do; this is the conspiracy. However, we were aware that those people were merely tools of a great conspiracy. I want to recall that time when these words began to be uttered and then when the words were turned into bullets, Shultz stood up to say that the time has come...this happened, brothers. We must learn how events became linked.

We must understand how the events became linked. Some of my brothers inside Ansar — and my brother Salah Khalaf is here and he knows these things — were told by the Israelis when we were still under the siege about a split inside the Palestinian revolution. Of course it was not a split. However, they talked to them about the possibilities of a split inside the Palestinian revolution.

I say this in case you were asked about what happened and why it happened. And when they failed, the split and the rebellion and so on and so forth also failed. They gave it so much importance and they devoted press reports to it. What they said was considered so important that it took precedence over what the world leaders were saying which merited only second page news. What they said merited front page reporting by all the media in the United States and Europe. They thought they they were going to (?take over) the Palestinian revolution. They made me remember, and I say this to my brother Bouhara and my brother Jallul

Mala'ikah and my brothers in the Algerian leadership here, because they encountered similar things in the Algerian revolution. We should remember these words because they used to say many things to the Algerian people including things that were said to us in the Palestinian revolution, things like: This Palestinian revolution does not want to liberate the land nor does it want to accept anything or do anything. They wanted to cause a split in the Palestinian people. It was the same situation experienced by the Algerian people, who said: We are with the Algerian revolution and we are with the FLN. Our people in the very dark and difficult days stood up to say: I am with the PLO, I am with the PLO. [applause]

Brothers, during the siege of Tripoli, it was uneasy. Some of my brothers here know that when the Algerian delegation wanted to go to Tripoli, they were not allowed to. My brother As-Sadiq knows that he came to Tripoli risking his life and as an infiltrator in order to reach us in Tripoli and see the siege under which we lived and afterward the nonstop shelling. I am sorry to say that Tripoli was much more bitter because I had never imagined that one day the siege would be dual: Israeli and Arab. Nor had I at any time imagined that the shelling against me would be Arab and Israeli. But this happened, brothers.

I say to the brothers my hand is extended toward you because we cannot confront our coming generations while this machine and this Satan which is called sectarian war is devouring us. I am going to tell you brothers, one day Kissinger stood up... and I said this before the war of 1982, I said about the dark tunnel and the balkanization of the area and I said that the area was being pushed into a factional operation to create the factional statelets and the kings of the factions and the rulers of the factions and the amirs of the factions. No one would believe us. Is it conceivable that the conspiracy is so horrible? Is it? I said to them: Yes. And not only the Palestinian revolution must be struck because it is a Palestinian revolution but because the Palestinian revolution rejects this logic they want to impose on the Arab area, the logic of factionalism. We in the Palestinian revolution are proud to say that we are not guilty of this malady they are trying to impose on our Arab area. And you have seen it. The Palestinian revolution left Beirut and Lebanon in order that factionalism would devour [word indistinct].

We have seen what is happening in the Lebanon and what our allies and friends and brothers — the heroic Lebanese people which they are trying to dismember — are enduring. If the conspiracy in Palestine was simply tearing up and dividing the land and afterward devouring all the land of Palestine, they have benefited from the experience. In Lebanon there is an attempt to dismember the land and the people. I say to some Arab rulers who agreed to these conspiracies of sectarian partition that this sectarian conspiracy is bound to spread in the body of our Arab nation if we allow it succeed. Lebanon will not be the only one who will be paying its price but all our Arab nation will have to pay this price. Our Arab nation will pay this price.

Brothers, it seems that history is repeating itself. I want to remind you that whoever goes back a little to this history will see it is repeating itself. We must bear this in mind brothers, because we are passing through a grave era which will not at all rest at the spilling of Palestinian blood in Beirut, Al-Biqa' al-Harmal, Ba'albak, Tripoli, Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid and elsewhere. This is not going to rest with spilling Palestinian blood. What is wanted is more than the Palestinian blood. What is wanted is to bring this area to its knees as Kissinger had said and include it in the whirlpool of balkanization and afterward to try to shatter it in order to make it easy to control.

I am saying this brothers because it is my right to sound the alarm. It is my right to sound the alarm. If our Arab nation is faced with one task, an important task, it is that it should not be alone in standing up to it. I am entitled to say this. I feel relieved because this was the center of a long conversation with my brother President Chadli at previous meetings. And I say: What next? If they believe that they expelled the Palestinian revolution from Lebanon, they are deluding themselves. There are operations behind the enemy lines and the last of them were the rockets that hit Metullah.

If they believe that they can bring our people to their knees inside our occupied soil, you have seen what had happened after the criminal attempt to blow up the Al-Aqsa' Mosque recently. As of now the West Bank has not calmed down, including universities and in the vanguard were our students. As of now the universities and first of all Bi'r Zayt University and others are closed down indefinitely. Thank God, our people, despite all these attempts to conquer it, said no and will say no until it raises this Palestinian flag over Jerusalem, God willing.

What is happening, brothers, is an attempt to bring the Palestinian revolution to its knees, to make it feel desperate. But I say to them: You are wrong. Who has despaired? I have not noticed, I might be growing old and I am continuing on the road. If anyone feels tired he can get out. I know that none of you feels tired. But just the same I say he who feels tired can step aside. Thank God there is no one who is tired among us. This is a very important point which everyone far and near must understand. I am optimistic. The battle of Tripoli was the battle of convictions. This is very important. They used to think that the Palestinian revolution could be brought to its knees. They cannot do so. They said it would take 3 days and Sharon said it would take 5 days and they said Tripoli would take 3 days. We lasted 48 days. The shelling was dual. But never mind. It might take a third,fourth, or even more battles here and there. We will last. Let them come. They must understand that this revolution as 'Abd an-Nasir said, was created in order to live and I say it was created in order to live and triumph, triumph, triumph, triumph. [applause]

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Chiefs of Staff Conclude Doha Meetings

Saudi Minister Comments

PM141635 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 13 Feb 84 p 1

['Abd al-Muhsin al-Murshid report: "Amir Sultan Tells *AR-RIYAD*: Gulf Chiefs of Staff Discuss Holding Joint Naval Maneuver"]

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, said in a statement to *AR-RIYAD* that the chiefs of staff of the GCC countries will discuss at their meeting in Doha the question of military cooperation between GCC member-states. His highness said that this cooperation includes joint naval maneuvers for the Gulf forces. The chiefs of staff meeting will also discuss the steps taken so far to establish a joint Gulf military college.

Prince Sultan added that the GCC defense ministers will, God willing, meet shortly in order to decide on certain Gulf military matters of interest to the GCC states.

Fourth Meeting Concludes

GF150500 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1920 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Doha, 14 Feb (WAKH) — The GCC chiefs of staff concluded their fourth meeting here this evening under the chairmanship of Staff Colonel Shaykh Mubarak ibn 'Abd ar-Rahman Al Thani, chief of staff of the Qatari Armed Forces, and in the presence of the GCC secretary general, the GCC assistant secretary for political affairs and the chairman of its military committee.

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah said at the conclusion of the meetings that the GCC chiefs of staff held four sessions during the past 2 days, during which they discussed the military reports prepared by the committees on coordination, integration, and cooperation among the GCC member-states.

In his statement, Mr Bisharah added that the GCC chiefs of staff will submit the recommendations they reached during their meetings in Doha to the third conference of the GCC defense ministers, which will be held in Doha next Monday. He added that the chiefs of staff discussed the progress made on implementing the resolutions that were reached during their past meetings, and expressed their satisfaction over the level of cooperation reached by the GCC states.

He also indicated that during their meetings the chiefs of staffs approved recommendations related to securing the GCC states' ability to confront future challenges, and that they worked out an agenda for the third meeting of the GCC defense ministers.

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Urges GCC Accept Yemen

GF111935 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Why Is Yemen Outside the GCC?"]

[Text] The events in Lebanon are not isolated from the events in the other Arab regions. Everything confirms that our region is approaching a disaster and that the chances of peace have become difficult options; that is, if they have not already vanished. Events escalate very rapidly and nothing has remained of the calls for peace and of its slogans, except sparkling words that contradict reality.

We have always warned against the great danger that is surrounding our Gulf region, where the race between the superpowers is most intense in a bid to polarize the region and prove that its people are incapable of influencing the course of events or of dealing with them as much as is necessary to keep their evils and their destructive effects away.

Developments in the Lebanese arena have confirmed that countries which rely on U.S. promises of aid and support can only afford to take such a wrong assessment into account when searching for and looking into the causes of the disasters and catastrophes that afflict their edifices and institutions.

It is wrong for some idealists among the politicians to believe that it is possible to rely on the promises of the superpowers that they will defend the region and protect it from the ambitious and malicious ones, when the greatest threat stems primarily from these states, or from their regional symbols and lackeys.

Thus, the Arab Gulf states were anxious to bolster their unity by joining under the umbrella of the GCC, and by doing so they reaffirmed the profound human relationships among their peoples, and affirmed the deep-rooted resemblances among them on the level of the unity of goals and aspirations. We believe that the present circumstances necessitate expanding this unionist inclination if we truly want to bear the major political responsibility that is imposed by circumstances and is necessitated by the nature of the existing challenges. This makes us search carefully for additional elements that would provide the GCC with additional means of strength and firmness.

We believe that it is the moral and nationalist duty of the GCC states to take Yemen [presumably YAR] into the GCC as a source of additional power and support that consolidates the one Gulf home.

Practically speaking, there are doubts concerning the credibility of foreign promises and commitments. The Lebanese experience has to be taken into consideration when discussing the issue of security and stability in our Gulf region. If we concede this fact, it is then sheer stupidity to leave developments to take their own course and allow the fire to reach our walls after having destroyed the houses of the neighbors and those around us, whether close or distant.

The game of war and peace in the Middle East is a lengthy game, and the Gulf region can in no way be excluded from it. Hence, we must perceive the nature of the overwhelming danger, draw policies, and define steps in order to avert danger and enter the game according to the rules and within the framework that provides us with protection and safety.

We in the Gulf suffer from small populations and we should not leave a situation whereby the region is fully crowded with Asians and others, while our brothers in Yemen are closer and are the ones who should be favored. And if we talk about dangers and put forward conceptions of what future situations will be, the most sensible thing then is to seek to bring Yemen into the GCC, instead of letting the region suffer the apprehension of foreign and internal fears and illusions.

ARAB TIMES Urges Iran End War With Iraq

GF150450 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 13 Feb 84 p 6

["Opinion" column by chief editor Ahmad al-Jarallah: "When Will Iran Grow Wise and End War?"]

[Text] The threats Iraq made a fortnight ago caused Iranian leaders to mobilize their forces and evacuate some Iranian cities. Iraq carried out its threats and Iran countered. Now the question is: How long will this continue and who will benefit?

All signs confirm that Iraq wants to end the war by friendly means, while Iran does not. Therefore, Iraq surely has the right to end the war by any means at its disposal.

The Islamic world has to appreciate the viewpoint of Iraq and to support it according to the prescription of the Holy Koran: "We have to fight the country that began the war, and if it refuses peace we must continue to fight it."

Iraq has been defending itself from the beginning and has successfully protected its lands and borders against repeated Iranian attacks. Now Iraq is attacking in an attempt to end the war that has set the entire region ablaze and that has wasted all of its economic resources.

Even the Iranian people themselves are not happy over the war and are beginning to feel that it was imposed on them by their leaders. Iran has not achieved its aims, though the conflict has been going on for four years. Iraq's political leaders are still in power and are solidly supported by their people.

On the other hand, Iranian wealth has been drained in an unjustified war. What will Iran gain if the war continues for ten years? Will it occupy Baghdad and achieve what it has so far failed to do?

What has to be known is that Iraq's military forces increase in quality and its leaders are receiving international support. What we hope now is that Iran will grow wise. The Arab and Islamic world are already too full of pointless misadventures.

PDRY

Chairman, Delegation Return From Moscow Funeral

GF150546 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and his accompanying delegation returned to Aden from Moscow yesterday after taking part in the funeral of late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, which took place in Moscow yesterday.

Deputy Chairman 'Antar Receives DFLP Official

GF141600 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Staff Brigadier General 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the YSP Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office this afternoon Brother Sa'id al-Hadi, member of the DFLP Central Committee.

During the meeting, they discussed the struggle relations between the YSP and DFLP. They also reviewed developments in the Arab region, particularly the situation in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas and the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs which are facing the Palestinian revolution and national Lebanese movement.

Brother 'Ali Ahmad 'Antar affirmed the YSP's principled and firm stand in support of the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of the PLO. He expressed his satisfaction with the level of struggle relations which link the YSP with the DFLP and all Palestinian liberation movements.

For his part, Brother Sa'id 'Abd al-Hadi highly assessed the principled and firm stand of the PDRY in backing the struggle of the Palestinian revolution in confronting the imperialist-Zionist and reactionary plots. He also expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the revolutionary experience in our country and the successes which have been achieved in the various fields.

The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Firas, the DFLP representative in Aden.

SAUDI ARABIA

Cabinet Meeting Reviews Arab, Local Issues

LD141557 Riyadh SPA in English 1225 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, Feb 14, SPA — The Saudi cabinet has reviewed current Arab and international developments, particularly the outcome of the latest moves to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

At the end of a regular weekly meeting of the Saudi Council of Ministers, held under the chairmanship of Crown Prince 'Abdallah here last night, Information Minister 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir

said the council also discussed a number of domestic issues [words indistinct] commercial frauds and decided to prepare a draft of a Royal Decree in this connection.

The cabinet endorsed an accord relating to a Saudi-Bengali joint corporation for industrial and agricultural investments, and agreed to work out a draft Royal Decree in this regard.

The cabinet also discussed a number of other local issues and referred them to specialized sub-committees for further study to be reviewed again in its next session, Ash-Sha'ir said.

AL-MADINAH Holds USSR Responsible for Lebanon

GF141902 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 10 Feb 84 p 1

[Column by Ghalib Hamzah Abu Al-Faraj]

[Excerpts] The first blow the Soviet Union struck following the Lebanese reconciliation conference in Switzerland — and following the comprehensive security plan which aimed to give all Lebanese an opportunity — was the cause of what happened and what is happening today in Lebanon.

The mass killing which has become commonplace in the Lebanese arena was not born today, but was the result of a criminal plan aimed primarily at causing the failure of national reconciliation in the country. It was not long after some kind of detente had begun to appear in the problem that the all forces of evil which surround Lebanon united and granted the Soviet Union, Israel and all peace-opposing powers the opportunity to achieve new gains through what is being practiced in the Lebanese arena today.

Those who know the reality of the conflict in the region must realize that the Lebanese who take part in the fighting were actually unconsciously dragged into the fighting that is taking place today and bringing destruction to Beirut, the mountain and wherever there is fighting. Hence, we say to all these brothers: Stop where you are, pull your fingers away from the trigger and listen to the voice of common sense and logic. Save your blood and the blood of your brothers. The tools of mass killing — which the enemies leaked to your ranks — are aimed at accomplishing the dream that is still tickling Israel's imagination; namely settling the Palestinians whom Israel has been banishing from their homes in southern Lebanon. In addition, they have been draining the waters of the Al-Litani River into occupied Palestine.

Lebanon is for all the Lebanese, without discrimination between one and the other. Before this war, Lebanon used to be theirs, and also used to belong to others who escaped from areas of power conflict so as to be sheltered by its skies and live on its soil in perfect harmony.

The Soviet Union wronged Lebanon and started a vicious war in it that has included Beirut, Tripoli, the mountain, Tyre and Sidon. Israel also wronged the Lebanese by occupying the south. It remains for the Lebanese to do something in order to stop this injustice and avenge for themselves against their common enemy, instead of waging this vicious war which is aimlessly raging among the children of the people. It also remains for the United States to fulfill its promise and establish the bridges of peace in order to get Israel out of the Lebanon. Only at that point will we be able to say that it supports Lebanese legitimacy, which has today in the midst of this war become helpless and powerless.

Is there hope that this wish will come true, or is it already too late?

Once more, we say truthfully and objectively: We have through our constructive policies been seeking to consolidate the milestones of affection in Lebanon. We have also been calling for good, love and peace. We have been and we still are constructing bridges of love using our own selves. This time we hope to find listening ears to stop this war which is harvesting the souls of the one homeland's children so that everyone may return to the language that is acceptable to the conscious world — the language of dialogue instead of the language of cannons, which are doing nothing but increasing the disruption.

Commentator on Al-Jumayyil's New Government Call

LD131826 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Analysis by 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hazza']

[Text] While the clashes continued on a number of axes in Beirut and the suburbs, the Lebanese president continued his efforts in the political field, in an attempt to save the country from the fires of dispute and sectarianism which are still storming Lebanon and making it suffer.

It has not been long time since President al-Jumayyil announced his reform program, with its eight points. He announced yesterday in an unofficial meeting with journalists that he wants to form a government which represents all Lebanese parts of the crisis. President al-Jumayyil said that this government will not be the only solution for all the difficulties Lebanon faces, but it will be a starting point for the required solution.

This announcement by President al-Jumayyil concerning the formation of a new government can be considered a good sign for Lebanon at a time when despair nearly covered all solutions and suggested reformation programs. If we take into consideration the results of the meeting which was recently held in Damascus by the leaders of the National Salvation Front, then our hopes for an early relaxation of the political crisis in Lebanon would increase. The demands of these leaders concentrated on a number of issues, all of which agree — or more accurately do not contradict — with what the Lebanese president calls for in his suggestions concerning the future of the political situation in his country.

One of the most important issues for the leaders of the National Salvation Front is laying down a new structure for the Lebanese Army. The structure should include neutralizing it and preclude it from belonging to a specific organization. These leaders also called for forming a national reconciliation government and canceling the 17 May agreement with the Israeli enemy.

The leaders of the Salvation Front did not mention, in the final communique of their meetings, a demand for the resignation of President al-Jumayyil, a matter which was called for by a number of members unilaterally in the past. We can add to the factors which support the Lebanese president in his reformation efforts for the government and army system the continuation of the Arab good offices, which try to close the gap among the the viewpoints of all Lebanese sides and between the points of view of Lebanon and Syria concerning the events and developments in the Lebanese arena. On talking about these good offices, the name of the Kingdom stands out as one of the countries which did not, and will not, get tired of providing these offices till a solution is reached which satisfies all the sides, and at the same time enables Lebanon to stand on strong feet which can combat and confront the developments the future might bring.

There is an important requirement which is needed by the Lebanese president now more than at any other time. This is a complete and early halt to all the military operations and the exchanges of bombings in Lebanon. The fulfillment of this requirement will bring positive results in the political field from two directions. The first is helping President al-Jumayyil in concentrating his powers and efforts on thinking and consultations concerning how to form the waited-for government and not occupying him with news of the daily bombing and of the heavy losses, a matter which no doubt takes a lot of time and effort to deal with — time which should be dedicated to finding a political solution to the Lebanese crisis.

The second direction is that the cease-fire will give more flexibility and maneuverability to the Lebanese president himself, and to all the parties which participate in the political solutions. Because without a cease-fire and complete calm in the Lebanese capital, any individual or collective diplomatic moves will be restricted, and hence will have limited results and benefits.

Our hopes are high that this demand by the Lebanese president will find listening ears from all sides of the conflict. Lebanon is not a homeland for President al-Jumayyil only, but is a homeland for every Lebanese. Therefore, all sides are invited to look seriously to the future of their country and to unite their efforts to fulfill every demand which might benefit Lebanon and its people, which nobody doubts are tired of the suffering and bitterness of war.

As President al-Jumayyil said, the Lebanese can reach a compromise when left on their own to behave with good intentions. This is now possible, and everyone is ready for a settlement.

Commentary on Mubarak-Husayn-Reagan Meeting

LD142358 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Comment by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan had a meeting with U.S. President Reagan to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East, and the role that could be assumed by the U.S. Administration on an objective basis.

The significance of the tripartite meeting among His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and U.S. President Reagan today in Washington depends on the results of this meeting, the first of its kind in many years. In such meetings, the results depend on the wishes of those concerned to reach specific results. There is no doubt that the Arab perception is clear to the U.S. Administration, and is drawn from full conviction based on facts that the U.S. President Reagan is bound to understand. His understanding depends on many considerations. Foremost among such considerations is the fact that the circumstances and variables imposed by the nature of events which have been and still are taking place in the arena of Arab-Israeli conflict have created the important conviction that the attempt to impose the Israeli option as the incontrovertible result, principle and only element in redrawing a political map of the region has not and will not succeed. This is due to a simple reason: Attention has been and still is focused on the Israeli enemy without taking the Arab side into consideration. Even if this has been spontaneous, it still comes from a single perception, namely that the Arabs alone are the obstacle to reaching a solution that contradicts their legitimate rights.

On such a basis, it has been and still is impossible to arrive at a formulation that would be a basis for a just and lasting solution because of the unjust and biased perception.

What took place in Lebanon as a result of the Israeli invasion was aimed at containing all the opportunities that would lead to a solution that would secure Arab rights, foremost among them being the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland. In other words, what has been taking place in Lebanon amounts to creating a state of confusion that would, under deliberate pressure, lead to creating a state of despair in the Arab that would force them to deal with options they would normally reject, as they neither serve his interests nor fulfill his just aspirations.

On this basis, the tripartite meeting in Washington could achieve something if the United States wishes to play a constructive role despite all the recent setbacks in its diplomatic efforts.

'UKAZ Supports Arab Summit Postponement

PM131253 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 8 Feb 84 p 3

[Hashim 'Abduh Hashim article: "Postponement Is Better Than Risking the Nation's Interests and Future"]

[Excerpts] The decision to postpone the Arab summit conference was the natural thing to do. It would not have been right for the Arabs to risk what is left of their ties and relations and insist on holding the conference under the worst circumstances of division and disagreement. The fragmentation, division and differences of opinion in the Arab homeland over central issues on which there should never have been any Arab disagreement are no longer a secret. The Arab people are well aware of this state of affairs.

The unprecedented conditions prevailing in the Arab homeland do not permit a unified stand and provide no indication of any possibility, however small, even of rapprochement, let alone reunion and agreement. That is why the Arab League secretary

general's announcement of the postponement was a natural move to rescue what is left of Arab ties and to pave the way for quiet contacts and a sober exchange of views away from all the tension, in the hope of promoting new understanding that will restore Arab the unity of ranks and lead everyone to the ideal road of common objectives.

This is perhaps an opportune moment to say that a country like Saudi Arabia is interested in seeing the highest level of joint action achieved, and in constructive efforts in the interest of this nation's causes. It is hopeful, ambitious and optimistic enough to say that it is still possible to rectify matters, and it is still possible for this nation to agree some day on a course that serves common Arab interests.

Therefore, Riyadh, motivated by the historical responsibility which governs its approach to any current effort, stands up to honestly stress to everyone that tomorrow is dangerous — that the future is gloomy, continuation of the present conditions is in nobody's interest, and that it would be better for this nation to reexamine many attitudes and current policies and offer more sacrifice for the supreme national interests and thus enhance confidence, understanding, and joint work and ensure the success of any future meeting for ending our nation's present state of loss.

UAE

AL-BAYAN on Reagan-Husayn-Mubarak Meeting

GF140805 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 14 Feb (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* has noted that the Washington meeting constitutes another opportunity for the Arab side to ask the current U.S. Administration to review its Middle East policy and to realize the gravity of the continuing Israeli aggression against the Arab nation, which has the unlimited support of Washington.

Commenting editorially, the paper said: During the meeting with Reagan today, having a unified Arab position and expounding on an integral Arab view are two important steps that will provide momentum in the effort to direct the formulation of new views by the Reagan administration with regard to the adoption of practical stances in the future toward the Arab dispute with Israel."

The paper went on to say that it is important in this meeting or in any other meeting "that Washington be apprised of the facts necessary to formulate this U.S. position, so that Reagan or any other U.S. leader may act in accordance with the genuine requirements of the United States, and not in accordance with what appeases the Zionist lobby, which is not concerned with the interests of the Americans or their President as much as it looks for methods to extort further U.S. financial and moral support for the Israeli avariciousness."

The paper continued: "It is axiomatic that it has to be repeatedly emphasized that the crux of the Middle East crisis is the deprivation of the Palestinian people of their legitimate rights, including the right to establish their independent state. If the United States has the sincere intention to meet the human and legitimate rights of the Palestinians, then all the other parts of the Palestinian issue which constitute the Middle East crisis will become easy to solve. This should be the basis of the U.S. thinking and behavior that will find a response."

YAR

European Parliament Delegation Departs 10 Feb

GF101826 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The European Parliament delegation left San'a' today after paying a visit to our country that lasted several days.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY Mrs (?Victoria Vare) stated that the talks of the delegation with the officials in our country focused on bilateral relations in addition to the situation in the Middle East, and the efforts undertaken by the European group to attain peace in the region. She termed these talks as being fruitful and useful, as they enabled the European delegation to learn the political positions of the YAR and the economic situation.

She went on to say that the spheres of cooperation will be promoted following what has been learned about the YAR's economic policy. She asserted that the delegation will work to develop relations with our country and push forward the draft agreement which was signed with the European group on promoting development in the YAR.

She noted her meetings with Habib Chatti, the ICO secretary general, and with Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee chairman, in the YAR. She said: As a result of that, and following the positive views and proposals of the YAR Government, we regard the results of these meeting as being fruitful with regard to the Middle East dispute, which could lead to the launching of a new European initiative to solve this dispute and to attain peace.

She said that these meetings, which took place in Yemeni territory, indicate the extreme importance of the role the YAR plays in efforts to achieve peace. This is the very important role which other countries count on.

More on Mubarak, Delegation U.S. Visit, Reaction

CBS Interviews Al-Baz

JN141717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 14 Feb (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that the tripartite meeting to be held today between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and Jordan's King Husayn does not necessarily mean a declaration of the Jordanian monarch's participation in the peace process. Dr al-Baz said it means that the peace process is progressing, more importance is being given it, and that the United States is assuming a more positive role in this respect.

Dr al-Baz stated this in an interview on the U.S. television network CBS in reply to a question on whether King Husayn's participation in the tripartite meeting means that Jordan has joined the peace process.

On Egypt's opinion of the U.S. stand toward the Lebanese crisis, Dr al-Baz said: We would like to assist the United States and the other countries of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in withdrawing their forces from Beirut without having to relinquish their basic task, that of safeguarding peace in Lebanon.

Commenting on the current situation in Lebanon Dr al-Baz called for halting the shedding of blood. He said: We want the Multinational Forces to withdraw and to replace them with a U.N. force.

Dr al-Baz said he supports halting the U.S. artillery shelling and avoiding striking at positions in Lebanon.

On the theory forwarded by former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the Syrians, Libyans, Iranians, and Soviets are working together to create instability and disturbances in the Middle East, Dr al-Baz said: I don't agree with that interpretation which is a conspiracy against history. Such theories are very dangerous. The Syrians, as any other people, interact with the events which surround them, and if the Syrians sense an incentive, they will follow a constructive course. Al-Baz added: We believe Syria has a legitimate and just demand, that of regaining its occupied territories in the Golan Heights. Also, its security demands are natural.

Dr al-Baz expressed satisfaction with the continued dialogue between Syria and the United States. He said: We believe that logic and wisdom will prevail in the end.

Dr al-Baz added: We deem it necessary to speed up the settlement of the situation in Lebanon and to achieve the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon without delay as this will be followed by a Syrian withdrawal and will strengthen the authority of the Lebanese Government.

Dr al-Baz stressed that one must always keep in mind that the Palestinian cause is the core of the dispute in the Middle East and that one must move on all fronts simultaneously to attain a just solution to this problem.

In reply to a question on whether the Syrians really intend to withdraw from Lebanon, Dr al-Baz said he supports the saying that the Syrians have security demands in Lebanon. However, they will not be able to impose their will on the Lebanese people forever and the Arab countries are capable of assisting in entrenching the Lebanese people's sovereignty and dignity, and the Arab governments can speak to the Syrians. Elaborating on this point, Dr al-Baz said if the Israelis withdraw from Lebanon Syria will no longer have any excuse or pretext for remaining there.

In reply to a final question on whether Egypt supports the cancellation of the 17 May agreement between Israel and Lebanon, Dr al-Baz said: We believe that agreements and their survival are very important for safeguarding the stability of the international system. However, we believe it could be beneficial to the Israelis and Lebanese to amend certain of the 17 May agreement's provisions and that this amendment be made with their approval, especially since the agreement has not yet been finalized, thus making it possible for some amendments to be made here and there.

Reagan Receives Mubarak

JN141718 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 14 Feb (MENA) — President Ronald Reagan received President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today in the White House. President Mubarak arrived at the White House at 1100 Washington time, 1800 Cairo time. He was welcomed by Secretary of State George Shultz, who accompanied the President to the Oval Office where he was received by President Reagan.

Also welcoming the President in the Oval Office were Robert McFarlane, Reagan's adviser for national security, and Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. ambassador in Cairo. President Mubarak was accompanied by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Reagan-Mubarak Meeting Ends

JN141908 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Presidents Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Ronald Reagan concluded their talks at 1930 tonight, Cairo time. Present at the meeting, which was held in the Oval Office, were Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; and Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal.

Present on the American side were Secretary of State George Shultz; Robert McFarlane, the U.S. President's adviser for national security; and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Nicholas Veliotes.

Following the 1 and 1/2 hour long talks, the two presidents left for a luncheon at the White House where they were joined by His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. Consultations were then held

among President Mubarak, President Reagan, and King Husayn on the developments in the Middle East situation and the current conditions in the occupied West Bank and Lebanon. The radio team in Washington says King Husayn's participation at the meeting, which was held over a working luncheon President Reagan held at the White House, doesn't mean that Jordan will join the peace process in the Middle East. However, the consultations dealt with the attempt to give an impetus to the efforts aimed at establishing a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in the region.

Regarding the bilateral summit meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Reagan, they discussed the situation in the Middle East in light of the developments which have taken place in the Lebanese arena, the events in the occupied West Bank, the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the situation in the trouble spots in Africa. The radio team in Washington has learned that President Mubarak underlined the need for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, foremost of which are the Israeli forces. President Mubarak also underlined the need for joint action to halt the construction of settlements in the occupied West Bank and to exert efforts to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war, which constitutes a grave danger to the region's peoples and world peace.

Mubarak-Husayn-Reagan Talks

JN142140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] An urgent cable from the radio team in Washington says that President Mubarak will meet with King Husayn at 2330 tonight Cairo time at President Mubarak's residence in Washington. This will be the third time President Mubarak has met King Husayn during the president's visit to Washington. President Mubarak met with King Husayn during the latter's dinner banquet held in the king's residence in Washington. President Mubarak met again with the Jordanian king during a luncheon President Reagan held at the White House this afternoon.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has underlined that the Palestine question has priority over the other Middle East issues and problems. He also underlined the importance of mutual recognition between the Palestinians and Israelis. President Mubarak further underscored the need for reaching an urgent solution on that issue, stressing that the Palestinians must practice their legitimate rights.

In a speech he delivered following the end of the tripartite meeting between President Mubarak, President Reagan, and King Husayn, he said he and President Reagan had discussed issues of common interest in a spirit of friendship and cooperation that characterizes the relations between Cairo and Washington. He added that he found in President Reagan a deep feeling of responsibility and that relations between Egypt and the Untied States are an example of understanding. He said: I have invited President Reagan to visit Egypt. He added he had exchanged viewpoints with King Husayn and reassured him of Egypt's support for the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO, since this dialogue is a positive step. He said: We will intensify our meetings with our partners to usher in peace.

President Reagan delivered a speech in which he asserted that the current events in the Middle East must not affect the peace process. Reagan voiced the hope that all the parties concerned would abide by the principles incorporated in his peace initiative, which calls for the inadmissibility of seizing land by means of force, so as not to jeopardize peace and enhance the prospects for stability in the region.

King Husayn of Jordan then delivered a speech in which he expressed his delight at meeting President Husni Mubarak. He said they had discussed issues that concern the region and world. They also discussed the common objectives of Egypt and Jordan to bring about a better future in the Middle East and to reach a just and comprehensive peace.

Mubarak Departs

JN150658 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Our radio mission in Washington reports that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left the U.S. capital last night for Cairo, concluding a 4-day visit to the United States. During his visit, he held extensive talks with U.S. President Reagan and several U.S. senior officials on Middle East issues, headed by the Palestine question, the Lebanese crisis, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the means of achieving peace in the region. The talks also covered means of strengthening the existing U.S.-Egyptian relations in various fields.

During his stay in Washington, President Mubarak also met with King Husayn of Jordan. They discussed means of achieving peace in the region.

The Washington talks culminated in a tripartite summit among President Reagan, King Husayn, and President Mubarak.

President Mubarak was seen off on leaving his place of residence in Washington by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who wished President Mubarak a safe journey home. He also thanked the president for visiting the United States. President Mubarak and the accompanying delegation then left for Andrews Air Force Base, where he was seen off by Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam, Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Ashraf Ghurbal, members of the staff of the embassy in Washington, and several U.S. Government officials.

President Mubarak had received King Husayn of Jordan last night in his place of residence in Washington. Later, the president said his call on the United States to establish a dialogue with the PLO is meant to push the peace process forward and to assist the Palestinians in achieving the appropriate coordination with King Husayn so that we will be able to back the peace process with the maximum speed possible. President Mubarak added that this is the main idea and that King Husayn and the U.S. Administration support it.

Asked if he expects the U.S. Administration to begin a dialogue with the PLO, the president said: We are calling everywhere for a dialogue between the United States and the PLO. Addressing journalists, he said: You should put this question to

the U.S. Administration, which continues to refuse to conduct a dialogue with the PLO.

Press Views Mubarak's Talks

JN150927 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — Cairo papers continue to highlight the reports on the tripartite summit talks in Washington between President Husni Mubarak, King Husayn of Jordan, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan to give momentum to the peace process in the Middle East and to prevent a further deterioration of the situation in the region, especially after the recent bloody developments in Lebanon.

In their comments today, the papers discuss the talks that the three leaders held and which centered on the Palestine question and the Lebanese crisis in particular.

In its editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says this historic meeting could become a turning point in the course of the Middle East crisis. The paper notes that Israel is perturbed by these talks because they are taking place at a time when the U.S. Administration is determined to play a decisive role in the process of achieving peace in the Middle East. These talks, the paper says, also afford a golden opportunity for two prominent Arab leaders to explain the Arab viewpoint to the U.S. Administration.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: What increases Israel's anxiety is that the principles announced by Egypt for solving the Middle East crisis constitute strong backing for Palestinian rights, emphasizes Lebanese sovereignty, and rejects the Israeli policy of invasion and settlement.

The paper says what Israel fears most is for Egypt to be able to persuade the U.S. Administration to begin a political dialogue with the PLO, because this dialogue, in addition to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, would guarantee the achievement of a just political solution to the Palestinian question.

Concluding, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* points out that these Israeli fears indicate the great importance of President Mubarak's talks in Washington and the importance of the results that might come from them.

AL-AKHBAR expresses the hope that the Washington talks will be a contributing factor in restoring stability to the Middle East, especially since this stability is desired by both the United States and all peace-loving nations in the world.

In its comment today, the paper says: If Washington is indeed serious about contributing to the solution of the difficult crisis in the region, then it should give concern to the Palestine question by beginning a direct dialogue with the PLO, the legitimate spokesman of the Palestinians.

The paper adds: The U.S. Administration must have benefitted from the (?bloody) lessons it received in Lebanon for overlooking the Palestine question. It should also understand that complete dependence on Israel in protecting U.S. interests in the region is not the way to preserve good relations between Washington and the moderate states in the Middle East.

Butrus Ghali Statement on Africa, Middle East

JN141616 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali has delivered a statement to the Political Integration, National Security, and Foreign Relations Committee of the Nile Valley Parliament in which he explained the current political situation in the Middle East and Africa within the framework of President Husni Mubarak's visit to a number of African countries. His excellency also focused on the political efforts in the field of coordination between Egypt and Sudan aimed at resolving the Palestinian problem and containing the conflicts in Africa that threaten that continent's security and stability.

The committee has issued a statement in which it praised the sound political move that the political leaderships of Egypt and Sudan are undertaking to serve the causes of the people and [word indistinct] and defend the African and Islamic causes.

Further on Statement

JN141626 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today delivered a statement before the Political Integration, National Security, and Foreign Relations Committee of the Nile Valley Parliament in which he explained the results of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's visit to a number of African states. His excellency said that Egypt recently played an obvious role in the African issues, and that the Egyptian-African talks focused on activating relations between Egypt and these states. He added that one of the political issues President Mubarak discussed was the Namibian problem and that Egypt stressed the need to realize Namibia's independence in accordance with the appropriate UN resolutions. He also said that Egypt and Sudan are taking action to mobilize world public opinion to realize that independence. He said the second issue President Mubarak discussed was the Chadian problem, and that Egypt supports Chad's legitimate government and its international rights, and rejects any foreign interference in that country's affairs.

Dr Ghali said the third issue President Mubarak discussed was the issue of the Western Sahara, and that Egypt and Sudan support any solution to that problem through friendly means in accordance with the OAU resolutions.

Better Relations With Libya Sought Through Sports

NC142049 Paris AFP in English 1752 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, Feb 14 (AFP) — The six-year freeze in sports relations between Egypt and Libya could end next month with the invitation to Libyan volleyball champions Arsenal Toursana to play in next month's African club champions cup finals here. And the Egyptian Volleyball Federation (FEVB) is hoping their

sport could help Egyptian-Libyan relations, in the same way table tennis boosted Sino-American relations in the sixties.

Egypt and Libya have not met at any sporting level since the controversial football match between the countries at the 1978 African games. The game ended in a full-scale fight, and the Egyptians pulled all their competitors out of the games the next day.

Diplomatic relations between the nations have been broken since 1979, following the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

Toursana has yet to reply but FEVB President Nasif Salim said today: "Ping pong brought the United States and China closer together. We think that volleyball could help Libya and Egypt, brothers and neighbours, to come together again."

Ghali, French Ambassador Discuss Middle East

JN141602 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 14 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, this morning received French Ambassador in Cairo Philippe Andre Cuvillier. Discussions during the meeting focused on the current developments in the Middle East and the situation in Lebanon.

FRG Youth Minister Ends Visit, Departs

JN141844 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 14 Feb (MENA) — Heiner Geissler, FRG minister of youth, family, and health, and his delegation left Cairo for home today following a 5-day visit.

Minister Geissler expressed his satisfaction with the results of his talks with ranking officials in Cairo. He stated that his country supports Egypt's efforts to bring about peace and stability in the Middle East. He added that the FRG will continue to offer its aid to Egypt and contribute to backing development, economic, and social plans in Egypt.

Haykal Views Internal Political Situation

PM101707 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Feb 84 pp 3,11

[Interview with Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal by Hamadayn Sabahi in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Arab situation is in a hopeless state. While the enemies are feeling stronger and becoming more arrogant, the Arab homeland is falling apart and disintegrating. The national issues remain pending and seem insoluble. We would like to take a look at the deteriorating situation with the man who, alongside 'Abd an-Nasir, witnessed the great historical ascendancy of this situation. Thus this dialogue is with the man who worked most closely with 'Abd an-Nasir and shared the years of ascendancy with him. What do you say of these years of deterioration? How would 'Abd an-Nasir have dealt with this situation, or what would be the Nasirite attitude to it?

Answer: I think that there is a "mathematical" error in your question, because you are adding what cannot be added together and deducting what cannot be deducted. That is incorrect according to mathematical rules. The answer to how 'Abd an-Nasir would have dealt with this situation is that he never would have faced a situation like this, because if he were alive the Arab situation would not have deteriorated as it has now. The situation has deteriorated in 'Abd an-Nasir's absence. All the problems being discussed — the U.S. return to the area in the manner it occurred, the Arab disintegration, the upsetting of the strategic balance, the almost total domination of Israel — none of these would have arisen had 'Abd an-Nasir been present and had the popular movement he lead still existed. An individual alone can achieve nothing. When I speak of the individual's role in history, I refer to his ability to react with the masses and express their sentiments; that is expressing history. An individual operating in a vacuum can achieve nothing. Had 'Abd an-Nasir been present and leading the popular movement he led, whether it was the movement expressing the unanimous Arab will or the will of the majority, or the most influential movement, nothing that you see around you now would have happened.

'Abd an-Nasir was an opportunity that presented itself to the Arab reality. By 'Abd an-Nasir I mean both the individual and the masses that felt, identified themselves, and shared common objectives with him.

After 'Abd an-Nasir's departure, Nasirism witnessed a stage that attempted to abolish Nasirism. This stage is continuing, and is the cause of the present deteriorating Arab situation. Although this is continuing, I am certain it is now coming to an end and that the Arab homeland is about to witness the beginning of a new — that of abolishing the abolisher.

However, this does not mean that everything engaged in under 'Abd an-Nasir was correct. But 'Abd an-Nasir's basic trends were correct, the proof being what we see now. There may have been errors in action here and there, but the general course of his trend, on which government was based, was unquestionably correct.

At present Nasirism is facing many forces anxious to abolish it. For this reason the stage of abolition is continuing, because of Israeli dominance, the U.S. return to the region, and its continued attempts to smash 'Abd an-Nasir. It is also because of social, class, and value defects in the Arab homeland as well as the wealth that has come to the Arab nation. I believe the wealth that has come our way during the past 10 years is greater than all the wealth that the Arab Abbaside and Omayyad empires ever enjoyed. Yet we have done nothing with this wealth; we haven't built an empire, or anything approaching an empire, or even a common Arab project. What is happening is that there is an abundance of Arab wealth that comes and goes without our knowing how. We have neither built up anything nor benefited from anything; only a flood of wealth that washes away values, principles, and objectives.

These powers — the Americans, the Israelis, and those involved in wealth — are now the sources that feed and encourage the stage of abolishing Nasirism, because that serves their interests and achieves their objectives.

Where does this lead us?

I believe we are approaching the stage of abolishing the abolisher.

When we look at the Arab political map, we find we are in a state of affairs which, if it is not quite the end, is nearing it. There is a certain general intellectual, political, and moral bankruptcy. But no one has yet announced his bankruptcy, because bankruptcy on this social level is unlike bankruptcy of individuals. It is a state of impotence, of inability to face the present situation. Thus it becomes evident that a whole era has failed to face the situation and find solutions, just as an indebted person defaults on the repayment of his debts; it has no choice but to declare its bankruptcy and disappear, so that a new era can begin.

For example, let's look at what is happening in Egypt. The regime under President as-Sadat tried to destroy the Nasirite experiment. It was not content with criticizing its actions, which is legitimate, or correcting some of its mistakes, which is acceptable, but engaged in what is illegitimate and unacceptable, namely, to destroy and distort all of the July revolution's achievements.

The result of what was said about Nasirism during As-Sadat's era was bound to lead, in theory at least, to the return of the Wafd Party.

Question: Does this mean that As-Sadat paved the way for the return of the Wafd Party?

Answer: This is true, at least in theory. For 10 years 'Abd an-Nasir and the July revolution were subject to attack; all possible calamities, failures, and disasters were attributed to it. A distorted picture of the July revolution was drawn up. It was a false picture, but impressed some minds and had its effects.

I was one of those who were alarmed recently when I heard President Husni Mubarak criticizing leftist elements. He may be right in his criticism, since there is no doubt that, like all other factions, the Left has made its mistakes. But in his criticism President Mubarak said: "They want to take us back to the era of the closed society, which pushed us back 100 years." What closed society era is referred to here? Is it the era in which we built the High Dam and the major industries which President Mubarak visits from time to time? I disagree that this was the era of a closed society. Nevertheless, if for argument's sake we say it was the era of closed society and that it took Egypt back 100 years,then we would have gone back to the era of Muhammad 'Ali's dynasty, in which case the return of the Wafd Party would be legitimate.

I'm sure that President Mubarak did not mean that but, unfortunately, the reiteration of certain slogans has become automatic. But with such slogans, President Mubarak will be hurting himself. I'm certain he appreciates the achievements of the Nasirite era, for he is of the generation that lived through and experienced those achievements. However, the effect of propaganda campaigns is such that he himself can describe the Nasirite experiment as "the era of closed society that took us back 100 years."

Question: There are now in Egypt the New Wafd Party, which is an expression of an era which 'Abd an-Nasir superseded, and the National Democratic Party [NDP], which cannot be said to express 'Abd an-Nasir's revolution and ideas.

Answer: The NDP is an expression of the attempt to destroy the July revolution and Nasirism and simultaneously pay it lip service.

Question: How then can we evaluate the party?

Answer: The NDP, with due respect, is part of the attempt to abolish 'Abd an-Nasir; it is the party of Anwar as-Sadat. It is, briefly, the party of As-Sadat's experiment; no one can convince me that it is the party of the 23 July Revolution.

I was one of those unenthusiastic about President Mubarak's joining the NDP, and in fact, still consider him as not having joined the party, because he does not represent the actions of that party. He is a man who is trying. Although I may not agree with some of what he says — such as what I told you about his reference to a closed society — I find his actions in other respects to be sincere and compatible with the course of events and history. I accept that from him and do not wish him to be a Nasirite. Rather, I want him to be Egyptian and pan-Arabist, expressing and reflecting this era. I don't want more than this. I may agree to disagree, or others may agree or disagree with what he says, but I believe there is a distance between him and the NDP, and that he joined it out of political necessity. I believe the NDP does not and cannot represent anything except Anwar as-Sadat's party.

Administrative Court Rehabilitates Wafdist Leaders

JN122110 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — In its session today under counselor Jalal 'Abd al-Hamid, the Administrative Court decided to rescind the execution of the socialist prosecutor general's decision to politically isolate Fu'ad Sirj ad-Din and Ibrahim Faraj.

Explaining the reasons for the rescindment of the prosecutor general's decision, the court said it is evident from the documents that the activities attributed to Fu'ad Sirj ad-Din and Ibrahim Faraj, and which were the reasons for the two contested decisions, took place more than 25 years ago. The court also noted that a presidential decree had already been issued granting them amnesty for the penalties issued in this regard and removing all the effects of these activities.

AL-AHALI Calls for Free Parliamentary Elections

PM131134 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 8 Feb 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Legitimacy and the Usurpation of Power"]

[Text] Our rulers never tire of emphasizing the wonderful "democratic" life Egypt is enjoying, and stressing that the People's Assembly elections will be held in total integrity and honesty.

Yet, they give one proof after another that what they're doing is the opposite of what they're saying and alleging.

Three incidents occurred this week that expose the concept of this lame democracy and the free elections which we have been promised.

The Interior Minsitry refused to comply with the judiciary ruling confirming the right of parties and groups to hold popular conferences outside closed halls, and banned a conference in Al-Jumhuriyah Square scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday).

The state security organs arrested a number of young members of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG] Party in Armant and Abu Tusht, and referred them to public prosecution on the charge of hanging pictures of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and Khalid Muhyi ad-Din and sending out invitations to an NPUG political meeting. However, the prosecution has released them.

The interior minister stated last Sunday that the request by parties to hold mass meetings during the election campaign "is still under consideration."

It is obvious from these and other incidents that the government insists on violating the laws and their legitimacy to which the parties strictly adhere. The government disregards the laws and judiciary. It isn't content with usurping seven press establishments that publish four daily newspapers and scores of weekly papers and mgazines, as well as the country's radio and television and placing them at the disposal of the National Democratic Party [NDP]. It also seeks to isolate the parties and prevent their representatives from directly meeting with the masses at public meetings by arresting their members who distribute the pictures or statements of their leaders. In spite of all this, they still want us to believe the promise of honest and free elections under the electoral law which in itself is a blatant violation of the freedom and integrity of elections.

Matters are rapidly developing into a serious situation. Only 3 months are left before the National Assembly elections. Unless the parties and groups, and more importantly, the masses through their various democratic organizations move by sending telegrams and submitting petitions rejecting the falsification of their will, the sole result of the elections will be the usurpation of power by a parasitic minority for another 5 years, with all the dangers that this might imply for the country.

AL-AHALI Critical of USAID Director's Statements

PM131135 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 8 Feb 84 p 12

[Philip Jallab "Question and Answer" column]"

[Excerpt] Reader Ahmad A.M. of the College of Economics and Political Science asks: Why is the government, in accordance with international law and diplomatic custom, not taking action against USAID Director in Cairo Mr Michael Stone who has criticized the Egyptian Government and asked it to abolish all kinds of commodity subsidies, including bread and animal feed, and to allow his country to participate in drawing up Egypt's economic policy?

Answer: No one can doubt our government's desire to preserve its "sovereignty," but it didn't take any action against Mr Stone despite his statements which were published in a government magazine because of complications that led to a misunderstanding by the American "friend" despite his good intentions. Mr Stone was not aware that our government had actually decided to abolish subsidies since last December because the decision was secret. Naturally, it isn't good policy to announce such a decision in the press a few months before the general elections. For this reason the government's attitude is the same as Mr Stone's, and therefore, there is no need to create disputes between friends, call a friend to account, or take any similar measures.

Therefore, Mr Stone's statements are in fact addressed to certain opposition parties in Egypt. A national democratic government such as ours cannot possibly interfere in private problems that might arise between the opposition and a U.S. Government representative out of the desire to not hurt the feelings of either party. For this reason, certain government quarters believe our reader's question should be addressed to the opposition to understand the reason for its "faintheartedness" in face of Mr Stone's statements.

MENA, AFP Renew Former Agreement for 2 Years

JN141737 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 14 Feb (MENA) — Mustafa Najib, chairman of the MENA board of directors and editor in chief, today signed an agreement with Henri Pigeat, chairman of the AFP board of directors, to extend the former agreement between the two news agencies for another 2 years. Under this agreement, MENA will translate AFP's daily newscast into Arabic and distribute it to subscribers of AFP in Egypt.

Two Iranian Planes Raid Ba'qubah 15 Feb

JN150753 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Feb (INA) Two Iranian fighter planes this morning raided residential targets in the city of Ba'qubah, killing 3 citizens and wounding 18 others. This was announced to INA today by a military spokesman who said that the two Iranian planes infiltrated Iraq's international borders in the Diyala region of east central Iraq. Iraqi air defense means confronted them and forced them to flee. The following is the text of the military spokesman statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At 0714 today, two Iranian enemy fighter planes infiltrated and crossed our international border in the Diyala governorate and raided residential targets in the city of Ba'qubah. Our air defense means confronted the enemy planes and forced them to flee. The enemy raid resulted in the martyrdom of 3 civilians and injury to 18 citizens.

[Dated] 15 February 1984.

Information Minister Warns Tehran Within Range

JN141859 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Feb (INA) — Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi minister of culture and information, made a statement here today in which he strongly replied to the threats made today by 'Ali Khamene'i, the head of the Iranian regime, of shelling Iraqi cities.

The minister of culture and information said: Khamene'i and the Iranian officials know very well that they have used all they have and that we have not used all that we have. He added: We would like to tell them that at the expiry of the period that was set in the Iraqi Government's statement during which Iraqi shelling of selected targets in Iran will be suspended, we will teach them the lessons they deserve and we apologize in advance to the Iranian people. The Iraqi minister added: Let the Iranian officials know that our valiant Armed Forces, specifically our air force and our missile system, can reach most of the Iranian cities, including Tehran. He who warns is excused.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,373

JN141750 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,373 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Day after day, the courageous Iraqis who have right on their side and are committed to principles add brilliant pages to their history which is replenished with glories, sacrifices, and capabilities, and score against the covetous and rancorous enemies the greatest victories and feats in defense of their homeland and their sacred values. The results are as follows:

1. The criminal Iranian regime yesterday and today resumed its shelling of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, Khurmal, Tuwaylah, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari), and Ash-Shihabi with heavy artillery, inflicting losses in life and property. The losses, including those mentioned in our communique issued yesterday, are as follows: Basra, 21 martyrs, 108 wounded including several children, women, and old people, 22 houses demolished, 1 hotel damaged, and 24 cars and several civilian installations damaged; Khanaqin, 6 martyrs, 16 wounded, 6 houses demolished, and several orchards and civilian installations damaged; Mandali, 2 martyrs, 2 wounded, 13 houses, 1 kindergarten, and 1 hotel demolished, 3 cars and several civilian installations damaged; Tuwaylah, 15 houses and 1 school damaged; Khurmal, 3 houses demolished and 1 mosque damaged; Zurbatiyah, several houses demolished and several orchards damaged; Sayyid Sadiq and (Shandari), several civilian properties damaged; Ash-Shihabi, 1 house demolished and 1 car and several civilian installations damaged.

In reply to the criminal and barbaric Iranian regime's continuous shelling of our peaceful cities, and with God's help, selected targets in the following Iranian cities were shelled by rockets and were bombarded by our capable air force after midnight and this morning: Masjed Soleyman, Behbelhan, Andimeshk, Gilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, and Ilam. All our fighter aircraft returned safely to base after accomplishing their mission, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, forcing it to flee after inflicting on it losses in life and equipment.

3. Our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our units pounded it with all types of weapons, killing five and wounding many.

4. Our forward units shelled the enemy's artillery positions and its troop concentrations opposite their positions east of Basra and also shelled other enemy military targets deep inside enemy territory in the same sector, scoring direct and effective hits, and setting the enemy positions and its destroyed and hit targets on fire. Successive explosions were also heard emanating from them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 February 1984

Iranians Warned To Evacuate Certain Areas

GF150851 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] O poor and innocent families living in Abadan, Dezful, Ahvaz, Andimeshk, Masjed Soleyman, Behbahan, Ramhormoz, Bandar-e Khomeyni, Bakhtaran, Iram, and other provinces on the borders of Iraq. O people of Bakhtaran, Hormozgan, and Arab Ahvaz who have been exhausted by the oppression of the Khomeyni regime. We have been forced to create havoc in these

provinces, cities, and towns in order to retaliate against the Khomeyni regime's artillery units. We regret this and express our (?grief). We also call upon you in a fraternal way to sincerely adhere to our voice of brotherhood and humanitarian calls.

We had no intention of evicting you from your homes, provinces, and cities. However, in order that we may retaliate against the wicked and vile artillery of the pro-Khomeyni executioners, the said provinces will be subjected to intensive ground and air fire. Taking into consideration your security and well-being, we seriously call upon you, our poor Muslim Iranian sisters and brothers, to evacuate these districts and provinces as quickly as possible and march against the court of Jamaran. Otherwise, the consequence of remaining in the said areas will be death and destruction.

This is not our wish. However, what can we do? Khomeyni, Montazeri, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Ardabili, Musavi, Zahirnezhad, Mohsen Reza'i, and others have chosen this path for the sake of their existence. We ask for your understanding. We ask that you evacuate these cities and towns so as to maintain your security. We have made this warning and thus we are free of responsibility in the eyes of the entire world.

We warn the Iranian people to evacuate the said cities for the sake of their security and take the dark and grudgeful hearts of the enemies of this world as their targets. It was not our intention to bombard the said cities, nor did we wish to make them missile targets. However, your racist, warmongering, and illiterate rulers have chosen this direction, believing that the continued existence of their bloody rule depends on it.

O poor peoples of Ahvaz, Abadan, Dezful, Andimeshk, Shush, Ilam, Kermanshah, and all the rest of the cities and towns on the (?borders). Evacuate these cities for the sake of protecting yourselves and your families and march against the court of Jamaran. Raise to the heavens your calls for peace, brotherhood, and sincerity. Demand the termination of this bloody, tragic, and imposed war from the executioners and illiterate elements in Tehran and Qom. Your existence and happiness depends on the ending of this blood-dripping war. Therefore, the demand for the termination of the war should resound in every corner in Iran. The death songs for the (?infidels) in Jamaran should be sung throughout the whole of Iran.

We have said what we had to say and we have issued our warning. Thus we have rid ourselves of responsibility in the eyes of progressive humanity.

Baghdad To Abide by Commitment Despite 14 Feb Raid

NC150942 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Dear Iranian sisters and brothers: Iraq, in a gesture of good will and in reply to a message by Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Mojahedin-e Khalq-e Iran Organization and officer in charge of the National Resistance Council, announced that effective 1500 yesterday and for 1 week it would refrain from shelling Iranian cities. This morning Khomeyni's regime, instead of seizing this opportunity to take a step toward peace and to prevent destruction and bloodshed, sent two Iranian fighters to attack Iraq's border cities. Three defenseless citizens were killed and 18 were wounded in an attack against Ba'qubah in the border province of Diyalah. Will Iraq be justified if it reacts now? Nonetheless, we will continue to remain faithful to our commitment not to shell Iranian cities for another week. If Khomeyni's regime does not refrain from attacking and shelling our border cities, we will give them a taste of retaliation. We will leave it up to you, O Iranian Muslims, to judge. The one who warns is excused.

Tariq 'Aziz Message to UN Secretary General

JN151127 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Feb 84

["Text" of message sent by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Iraq-Iran dispute; date not given — read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Secretary General, I have the honor to inform you that I have received your message dated 10 February 1984. I would like on this occasion to point out the following: Iraq has been and still is ready to welcome any initiative by the secretary general to reach a peaceful settlement of the dispute in implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council, the organ empowered by the Charter with the responsibility of maintaining world peace and security.

As you know, Iraq has approved all the Security Council's resolutions and appeals for ending the dispute and settling it by peaceful means. Iraq had also previously agreed to the dispatch of a UN mission to examine the subject of the civilian targets which were hit during the war. That mission affirmed in its report that damage was sustained by both sides. However, even after the issuance of the mission's report, the Iranian side persisted in its denial of hitting any civilian targets in Iraq. Yet it continues hitting these targets almost daily. This confirms that the Iranian side was not serious about cooperating with the humanitarian objective of that mission by pledging not to hit civilian targets in the future.

We would also like to recall that the dispatch of the aforementioned mission at Iran's request was coupled then with the General Secretariat's hope that Iran would cooperate with the Security Council in the search for a peaceful settlement to the dispute. However, the Iranian side did not act in this spirit, but instead exploited the entire subject for cheap propaganda purposes. It continued its stand of insisting on the war. It also continued to ignore the Security Council and showed no desire to cooperate with the United Nations to find a peaceful solution to the dispute. This clearly shows that the Iranian side's so-called cooperation with the secretary general is conditional on its [also] ignoring the Security Council resolutions. This is a very serious matter not only with regard to the Iraq-Iran dispute, but also to the whole purpose of the United Nations and its future.

On this occasion, I would like to refer to the inhuman treatment of Iraqi prisoners of war and to remind you of our previous

request for the dispatch of a factfinding mission on this serious subject to both Iran and Iraq.

During our meeting with you on 29 September 1983, in the presence of Mr Palme, we received from you a seven-point memo covering all the elements of the dispute on the basis that you would discuss it with both sides as a new attempt to find a solution to the dispute. We informed you on 4 October 1983 of our agreement to discuss it. On 21 October 1983, the Security Council issued Resolution 540. Iraq approved that resolution, while Iran rejected it.

We and the whole world expected an initiative by the Secretariat based on its aforementioned proposal and the provisions of the last Security Council resolution. Iraq does not object to any initiative falling within the framework of a comprehensive discussion of the dispute. On the contrary, it supports and welcomes such an initiative as we affirmed to you and Mr Palme more than once. However, Iraq sees no benefit in any initiative that is considered by the Iranian side as only dealing with one aspect of the dispute and not leading to a general discussion of the dispute, and if the General Secretariat does not issue anything that will correct this erroneous impression and thus place matters in their true perspective. The Iranian regime's denial of hitting civilian targets in Iraq makes us believe that this is the course which the other side will follow in dealing with this subject. While we strongly encourage your initiatives, we cannot cooperate with any new initiative before obtaining serious assurances from the Iranian side to discuss the seven-point memo and all the subjects of the dispute in a comprehensive manner.

On the subject of shelling civilian targets, this is a matter which arouses our great concern. Since June 1983, our government has been proposing the conclusion of an agreement, under UN supervision, on avoiding shelling civilian targets. We also strongly welcomed Resolution 540 of 21 October 1983 which provides for this and other subjects which are not less important. We hope that the efforts of the United Nations, especially those of the secretary general, will concentrate on the implementation of all the provisions of this resolution.

The Iranian side's continuous threat to our civilian targets and economic installations, and in fact to our entity as an independent state, is clear to everyone. The best proof of this is that Iraq, which is a major oil producer, has been deprived of the right to export its oil from its southern ports because of Iranian attacks on its installations and the continuous Iranian threats to these installations up to this day. On the other hand, the Iranian side continues to enjoy this right. The Iranian side refused to stop these threats by rejecting Resolution 540, which means that it persists in harming Iraq by every possible means. Therefore, it is natural for Iraq, which is exposed to this aggression, to resort to every essential means to defend its vital interests and entity.

We again affirm the urgent need for an intiative by you. But it should also be clear that such an initiative should aim at discussing all the elements of the dispute and reaching a settlement of this dispute on the basis of the Security Council resolutions, which you were empowered to follow up on their implementation. We also reaffirm our readiness to sign an agreement with the Iranian side, under UN supervision, on avoiding the shelling of civilian targets.

Kindly circulate this message as an official document of the UN Security Council and General Assembly.

With my highest esteem.

Defense Minister Visits Basra, Tours City

JN141640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Basra, 14 Feb (INA) — Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, Armed Forces Deputy commander in chief and defense minister, has conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the valiant citizens of Basra and the president's pride in their courageous stand and their glorious steadfastness in the face of the barbaric shelling by the treacherous Iranian regime. During his inspection tour of the residential quarters and the areas in Basra which were subjected to the barbaric shelling, Gen Khayrallah praised the Basra citizens' preparedness and high morale and said that the continued barbaric shelling by the treacherous Iranian enemy reveals the extent of the hatred it harbors against Iraq and its righteous sons. Gen Khayrallah was accompanied on this tour by 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Ghafur, Ba'th Party regional command member and secretary of the party's southern organization.

Gen Khayrallah attended prayers in mourning of the martyrs who fell as a result of the barbaric shelling on Basra and extended President Saddam Husayn's condolences to the martyrs' families and his pride in their sacrificing their righteous sons. Gen Khayrallah also visited the wounded children, women, and old people in the hospitals, and extended to them President Saddam Husayn's wishes for a speedy recovery. He also met with several medical cadres and praised their efforts in treating the wounded and looking after their needs.

During these visits, the citizens of steadfast Basra expressed their readiness to offer sacrifices in defense of beloved Iraq and to maintain its banner fluttering high. They stressed that with God's help and the triumphant leader's confidence the rancorous clique will not succeed in impairing the morale of th valiant Basra citizens no matter how long its aggression and shelling last. Gen Khayrallah visited the headquarters of Ba'th Party Basra branch, and then left steadfast Basra.

President Congratulates USSR's Chernenko

JN141203 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn, secretary general of the Ba'th Party Regional Command, has congratulated Comrade Konstantin Chernenko on his election as CPSU general secretary. In a congratulatory cable sent today, the president said: I am pleased to send to you, in my own name and on behalf of my comrades in the Regional Command, heartfelt greetings and congratulations on your election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. On this occasion, we reiterate Iraq's desire to strengthen and develop the relations

of friendship and cooperation that exist between our two countries in order to serve our people's joint interests and promote struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and aggressive ambitions. We wish you success in your tasks, and wish the Soviet people further progress.

'Aziz Meets Cheysson in Moscow 14 Feb

JN141557 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow, 14 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the advanced relations between the two countries in all spheres.

Kurdish Clandestine Radio On Peshmerga Attack

GF141436 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] 'Amadiyah — The Peshmergas of Rashad (Shaykh) Warma'i, a unit of the 1st Division, attacked an 'Aflaqi [Ba'thist] regiment in 'Amadiyah on the night of 5-6 February at 1930. After bitter fighting the enmemy fled, suffering heavy casualties and material losses. The Peshmergas then returned safely to their bases.The next day the enemy imposed a curfew in the region in order to transfer the dead and the wounded of the Iraqi unit.

Kurdish Radio on Abduction of Swiss Technicians

GF141900 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1245 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] On the afternoon of 4 February, the company of martyr Qasim from the organization of martyr 'Abdallah Bamarri together with a group of Peshmergas from the organization of martyr Hormuz [name indistinct] which both belong to the local committee of struggling (Hudnah) prepared an ambush for the enemy across one of the roads leading from the center of the salt gardens, and the village of (Chamrashan) which lies along the Tigris to the north of Mosul. A Cheverolet car registration No 1807 was ambushed. It was carrying two Swiss experts. The Peshmarga of the local committee of [word indistinct] seized the car and captured the two experts who were safely taken to one of the revolution's liberated regions.

The two Swiss experts work for a company that specializes in excavation works and in the construction of platforms andbridges and which is called [name indistinct] Hatt-Haller. The experts are: 1. Hans Kistler, born in 1934 and resident of [name of town indistinct], Switzerland; 2. Mario Riva (Turico) born in 1939 and resident in Zurich, Switzerland. The company's headquarters is in Umm al-Qasr port in Al-Basrah. The company has a contract with the Iraqi Government to implement a 10-platform project at the port of Umm al-Qasr.

Our Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] had previously captured a group of foreign technicians and warned foreign workers in Iraq not to wander in Iraq's Kurdistan because it is an area of military operations by the Peshmerga against the forces and interests of the Iraqi Government. By capturing foreign experts, our party seeks no financial blackmail but we view them and their contracts as being part of the Iraqi interests. Our party aims to expose the dictator regime before world public opinion. This regime is trying, with all means, to impose a news blackout on the Kurdish revolution.

Our party has issued a press statment on the capture of the two Swiss experts and we will broadcast it to you in our coming programs.

Long live the Kurdish revolutionary army! This is the Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Ramadan, Delegation Visit Italy for Talks

For INA and ANSA reportage on the visit to Italy by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and an accompanying delegation, including their arrival on 13 February and reports on Iraqi-Italian talks, see the Italy and the Vatican section of the 14 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

King Husayn Concludes Talks in Washington

JN150834 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Washington — His Majesty King Husayn has ended his 2-day visit to Washington during which he met with President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz, and Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger. He also met with the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, who was visiting the United States at the same time

His majesty held intensive talks dealing with bilateral relations with the U.S. President and members of his government. The talks also touched on international and regional issues, primarily the Middle East issue.

His majesty stressed the critical situation in the occupied Arab territories, especially Israel's continuation of its settlement policy, the application of Israeli laws to these settlements, and the relocation of Arab inhabitants to other areas. His majesty called on the President and the U.S. Administration to adopt a clear stand on this expansionist Israeli policy and to exert pressure on Israel to end this policy, which will destroy all chances for peace in the region.

His majesty also called on the U.S. Administration to reemphasize the Palestinian question because it is the central question which must be dealt with. His majesty stressed the Arab points of view for achieving just and comprehensive peace in the region. These views concentrate on the need for complete withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied by Israeli in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem, and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination in their national homeland.

His majesty stressed the role of the PLO in reaching a just peace and the necessity of continued dialogue with the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

On the Lebanese tragedy, His majesty asserted the need to work for preserving the sovereignty, independance, and unity of Lebanon and giving the Lebanese people an opportunity to live within a framework of national equality and general cooperation after getting rid of the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon and after the withdrawal of other forces from all Lebanese soil.

On the Iraq-Iran war, his majesty indicated the need to create opportunities for reaching a peaceful settlement, especially after Iraq has responded to all international initiatives aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement of the Gulf war.

His majesty warned agaisnt continuing the policy of polarization int he region because this policy obstructs opportunities of reaching solutions to the region's issues. He called for international cooperation to reduce tension in the service of world peace.

King Meets Weinberger, President

JN141854 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Washington — His Majesty King Husayn held talks today with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and discussed supplies of modern sophisticated weapons for the Jordanian Armed Forces. The Jordanian ambassador in Washington and the U.S. ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

'Adil Malik, our correspondent in Washington, said that the second meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and President Ronald Reagan began a short while ago. Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will join the talks at the banquet luncheon which President Reagan will give in honor of His Majesty King Husayn and President Mubarak.

14 Feb Press Comment

JN141355 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Reagan-Husayn Meeting," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: More than one issue has been awaiting the meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and the U.S. President. In terms of bilateral relations, developments in the region during the past year have created many issues to be discussed. Among the most important developments with either a direct or indirect bearing on relations between Jordan and the United States are the continued Israeli military occupation of Lebanese territory and the political initiatives that were active until the U.S. President presented his September initiative.

Israel rejected this initiative immediately and the United States could not reverse the Israeli stand. The United States has also failed to stop the Zionist settlements or achieve the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Pressuring Israel to change its viewpoints were considered a criterion of U.S. credibility. In addition, the past period witnessed the signing of a strategic cooperation treaty between the United States and Israel. Matters were complicated by the presence of the Multinational Force in Lebanon. All these issues reflect on relations between the two countries, developments in the region, and on Jordan in particular.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: Jordan's defensive needs have become more urgent in light of the intensified arms build-up in the region and Israel's expansionist policy as represented in its occupation of land inside and outside Palestinian territory, including Jordan's West Bank. Jordan considers the United States its traditional source of weapons. Therefore, it is natural that the needs of our Armed Forces and U.S. aid to Jordan be among the most important subjects to be discussed during talks at the White House.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The devastating war between Iraq and Iran and the continued occupation of Lebanese, Arab, and Palestinian territories by Israel since its aggression in 1967 are the most sensitive issues in the region. These issues have further complicated the situation and made Jordan, which stands at the center of these incidents, more concerned about cooling the hotbeds and about moves to prevent further tragedies that would undoubtedly threaten world peace.

AR-RA'Y says: Since the U.S. President proposed his Middle East plan, it has become clear that the Zionist rejection of this plan returned the ball to the U.S. court and that the Reagan administration's stand remained frozen at the point of the Zionist rejection. The plan, which called for a freeze on settlements, was impotent in freezing them and met with an intensified Zionist settlement program. The plan, which also pointed out some of the Palestinian people's rights, was confronted by a Zionist rejection not only of these rights but also of the identity of the occupied territory itself.

Despite Arab and international calls for U.S. pressure on the Zionist entity, the U.S. Administration neglected even to think about the need for such pressure. Moreover, the U.S. Administration's stand toward the invasion of Lebanon and the escalation of the Lebanese crisis proved that President Reagan's administration has lost its role because of the Zionist obstacles. It proved that the U.S. Administration has no desire to convince the Zionist enemy to accept any of the Palestinian people's rights.

During his meeting with President Reagan yesterday, His Majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's stand — a stand that his majesty has announced more than once and which proceeds from the fact that the Zionist enemy must respond to international legitimacy and the UN resolutions that set the clear basis for settling the conflict in the region. Resolution 242 is clear and constitutes a basis for any political efforts. Just as no side has the right to seize the land of others by force, no one has the right to keep those lands by force. This is a principle agreed upon by the international community. Any deviation from this principle will threaten world peace, stability, and relations among the states and peoples of the world.

AR-RA'Y adds: Unilateral efforts in search of solutions have failed in Lebanon and prove that a settlement of the Middle East crisis cannot be achieved if Washington insists on acting alone. The crisis in our region which threatens further tragedies and catastrophes requires international cooperation to achieve a peace that is based on justice and stability. As a superpower, the United States must contribute toward peace and stability, preventing the imposition of wrong through force, and the acquisition of rights through superiority. Such a moral and human responsibility requires Washington to adopt a brave stand and take into account the ability of nations to regain their rights. Superiority, arrogance, and blind support are factors that cannot succeed in changing established facts, and history is full of lessons that confirm this fact.

Amman Radio Commentary

JN141946 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Feb 84

[From "Today's Talk" program]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan falls within his majesty's efforts to achieve a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. Such meetings will convey Jordan's Arab viewpoint to President Reagan and his administration. Both the king and the President are now discussing solutions and correct methods of action.

In Washington yesterday, His Majesty King Husayn expressed the belief that opportunities for achieving comprehensive peace in the Middle East still exist despite the big obstacles. The President supported the king's belief, and said that UN Resolution 242, on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories, still constitutes the starting point for tangible efforts to achieve peace in the region.

If the U.S. President still considers Resolution 242 the cornerstone and starting point to solve the Middle East conflict despite the fact that 17 years have passed without any progress toward achieving peace, then such a stand is considered a positive one amid the developments and incidents that have taken place in the Middle East and have upset many facts, balances, and formulas in the region.

What is important in this current stage is to concentrate on the positive stands adopted by countries which are able to contribute to the progress of peace in the region, especially if these stands are based on acceptance of the principle that Resolution 242 constitutes the starting point which can feed and modify the many positive elements included in the many initiatives and resolutions which have followed this resolution during the past 17 years. This is in addition to the fact that opportunities for achieving comprehensive peace still exist, despite the big obstacles.

In addition to discussing the many and multifaceted Jordanian-U.S. relations, the crux of the talks between His Majesty King Husayn and President Reagan was the possibility of achieving real progress toward more a comprehensive peace in a region buffeted by winds of confusion and violence.

The presence of the Egyptian president in Washington, and his meeting with his majesty the king to exchange opinions and hold consultations will give the current moves more weight before the U.S. Administration, especially since the Egyptian-French initiative includes positive elements toward a just peace process, and especially since the ideas presented will contribute to directing the course of action toward peace, which concerns the interests of Jordan, Egypt, and the Arabs, in addition to the interests of the United States, which is a superpower that shoulders ethical and moral responsibilities for issues of peace, security, and stability in the region and the entire world.

We hope the intensive talks taking place in Washington will result in tangible progress in the peace process — peace that will keep the region away from international polarization and will end Israel's aggressive policy in the Middle East.

Saudi Government Pays Arab Support Commitment

JN141650 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] PETRA has learned from Central Bank sources that within the past 2 days the Saudi Government paid the first installment of the Arab support commitment in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Baghdad summit. The Saudi Government also paid the share allocated to the Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

Al-Jumayyil, Franjiyah Discuss Developments
NC141734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] In an important and suprise step, and within the framework of the contacts President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil is holding with the Lebanese political leaderships, he met this afternoon with [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and reviewed the current situation in light of the latest developments. Regarding this important meeting, we refer you to our correspondent at the Republican Palace, Joe Sa'adah:

[Begin recording] Within the framework of the contacts President al-Jumayyil is holding with the Lebanese leaderships regarding the current situation and preparations for the National Dialogue Conference — called to convene 27 February — President al-Jumayyil today visited the northern area and met with President Sulayman Franjiyah. The meeting took place in the Lebanese Army barracks at the Boys Scouts center in (Tmar Jubayl) in the Al-Batrun area. President al-Jumayyil arrived there early in the afternoon accompanied by his adviser Muhammad Shuqayr and a number of senior officers. An Army band saluted him as Sulayman Franjiyah arrived accompanied by Deputy 'Abdallah ar-Rafi'i.

At 1315, the talks began and both presidents met in private for 1 and 1/2 hours. After this private meeting, the talks resumed at a working lunch attended by Muhammad Shuqayr, Deputy ar-Rafi'i, and the accompanying officers. The lunch continued until 1545, when President al-Jumayyil bade President Franjiyah farewell and returned to the Republican Palace in B'abda.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and agreement was reached to continue the contacts and prepare the atmosphere regarding the National Dialogue Conference, particularly since Franjiyah has an important role with respect to bringing the views closer. Political circles attach special importance to this meeting, which is expected to produce important results regarding the current political and security events. This is Joe Sa'adah from the Republican Palace. [end recording]

Various Al-Jumayyil, Salim Contacts Noted
NC142136 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Senior officials intensified their contacts and meetings tonight on the latest developments in Lebanon.

Following his return from (Sunnar Jubayl) where he met with [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah, President Amin al-Jumayyil tonight received Kamil al-As'ad, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, on the occasion of his weekly visit to the Presidential Palace.

President al-Jumayyil also received [former] President Camille Sham'un and [Phalangist leader] Pierre al-Jumayyil. He held consultations with them on the latest developments. There was also a telephone contact between President al-Jumayyil and [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salim.

Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim contacted [former] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss tonight, during which they discussed the current situation. Minister Salim also contacted Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and reviewed with him the results of the current contacts being made on several levels.

Minister Salim contacted Ambassador Rashid Fakhur, Lebanon's permanent delegate to the United Nations, who briefed the minister on the results of the contacts and consultations taking place in the corridors of the Security Council on the possibility of dispatching UN forces to Lebanon.

VOL: Al-Jumayyil Contacts Presage Crucial Decisions
NC150504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil is expected to make crucial decisions [qararat masiriyah] that will save the country from the whirlpool of violence, which was intensified yesterday to prevent the achievement of any acceptable solution. He has been making intensive contacts, described as extremely important. Informed sources say the principal decision will not necessarily deal with the 17 May accord; it might, depending on the circumstances and developments, go beyond that in confronting the situation.

Al-Jumayyil Might Refer May Accord to Chamber
NC150510 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] According to government sources, President al-Jumayyil has begun contacts preparatory to taking an important step, perhaps today. President al-Jumayyil began his contacts with a meeting with [former] President Franjiyah in the Al-Batrun District. It has been reported that agreement has been reached to maintain contacts. It has also been mentioned that Franjiyah might leave for Damascus within the next 24 hours to convey the ideas of President al-Jumayyil.

According to press sources, President al-Jumayyil has expressed his readiness in principle to revoke the 17 May accord and bring in UN forces. However, this has not yet been confirmed. The sources added it is more likely that the Chamber of Deputies might be called for a meeting of the conferees [words indistinct] so that the government would not be responsible for the cancellation of the accord.

Beirut Says U.S. Briefed on Current Situation
NC150738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The quick development in the security and political situation calls for a historic decision which the regime is seeking to take for the salvation of Lebanon. The regime is holding urgent consultations with political and religious leaders amid broad diplomatic activity to find the final touches to a draft solution for the Lebanese question. This move is accompanied by attempts to consolidate the security situation in wake of yesterday's fierce

clashes in the mountain, to reopen the various crossing points between the two sectors of Beirut, and to ensure the daily services.

The contacts suggest that a certain position will be adopted and that the United States has been briefed on this stance. Moreover, Lebanese officials are considering several proposals for taking the appropriate steps to emerge from the dilemma which the Lebanese question has reached.

Deputy Speaker Urges Abrogation of 17 May Pact

NC141607 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Deputy Speaker Munir Abu Fadil has said that the 17 May agreement has dragged the country into many ordeals. This pact must be buried and considered nonexistent. The liberation of southern Lebanon must be accomplished through UN Security Council resolutions, he added.

P. al-Jumayyil Says 17 May Agreement 'Only Course'

NC151113 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese Front today held its weekly meeting at which it reviewed the development in the current situation. After the meeting, former President Camille Sham'un said: We believe there is no reason for pessimism in respect of either the near, or distant future. We are awaiting the outcome of the contacts which the president is holding at home and abroad.

Regarding the historical decision which President al-Jumayyil will make, Sham'un said: If a historical decision is to be made, we will learn about it only when it has been made.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: Lebanon is in danger today. The most dangerous factor is that the Christian is starting to lose confidence in the Lebanese formula because partition is being imposed upon the Lebanese against their will. He said the loss of the coexistence formula among the Lebanese is a loss to the whole world, be they Muslims, Christians, or atheists.

Regarding the Lebanese-Israeli 17 May agreement, Shaykh Pierre said that it is the only course for the salvation of Lebanon, particularly the south.

Junblatt Rejects Al-Jumayyil Peace Plan

NC132146 Paris AFP in English 2055 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, Feb 13 (AFP) — Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt today rejected President Amin al-Jumayyil's peace plan for Lebanon, and repeated a call for Mr al-Jumayyil to resign. Mr Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] told Radio France Internationale he did not want to turn the resignation issue into a "personal" affair. But, he added, Mr al-Jumayyil would have to be "tried for the crimes he committed against the Lebanese people".

He also welcomed a statement yesterday by French President Francois Mitterrand suggesting the French Government would not side with Mr al-Jumayyil in the Lebanese conflict, and urged France to remain a friend to all Lebanese, whatever religious or political group they belonged to.

Junblatt Holds News Conference in Damascus

NC151343 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1240 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Statement by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt to journalists on 15 February in Damascus — recorded]

[Text] We are now emphasizing basic political issues following what happened yesterday regarding the military issue and victory. If Amin al-Jumayyil wants to abrogate the [Lebanese-Israeli] agreement, that is his own business, not ours. We do not consider that Al-Jumayyil's abrogation of the agreement will absolve him in view of the massacres and crimes that have been committed against the Lebanese people, be it in the suburb, the mountain, or anywhere else. We renew our demand for Amin al-Jumayyil's removal and for foiling his course. The agreement, as President Hafiz al-Asad said not very long ago, was stillborn. No credit goes to Amin al-Jumayyil if he now announces that he will revoke it. The agreement was born dead as a result of surrounding objective circumstances, the rejectionist Syrian stand, and the Lebanese national resistance as well as that of the patriots in the Arab countries, particularly Libya.

Thus we repeat: There will be no solution, no dialogue, and no accord with the Phalange Party or with Amin al-Jumayyil in power. Regarding security in West Beirut, the chief of staff of the Lebanese Army will there today and hold contacts with the national officers of the 6th Brigade and the national officers in the 1st Brigade in Al-Biqa' to form a national army command. The affairs of West Beirut can only be run through such a command. Thus, the Army can take control, or rather, undertake the discharge of its duties in the areas that have been liberated from the sectarian Phalangist army. In this respect we renew our demand to put those officers, soldiers, and noncommissioned officers on trial who committed crimes in the mountain, the southern suburb and who cooperated with the Israeli or U.S. enemies, as well as those who asked the Americans to shell the mountain and suburb.

Our demand for Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation is not addressed to the Christians. There is a big difference between the Phalangists and Christianity. We are ready to accept a Christian president, but we do not want a Phalangist president. Such a president can come through a political settlement and a radical reform of the regime, no more, no less. This must be a reform that will give all the Lebanese legitimate rights and determines, or rather, lays the foundations for a developed political system through which political sectarianism must be abolished in its entiriety.

The Palestinian issue is sensitive. I know that Western and Israeli propaganda focus on this basis. When we liberated western Beirut, we liberated it from the tyranny of the factional Phalangist army and, consequently, reassured the Palestinian people

there and in the camps. We absolutely support the Palestinian rights, but, let us say frankly, we refuse to return to the state that preceded the Israeli invasion. Therefore, we will sit with the comrades in the [Fatah] uprising to specify the roles and tell them that their best shield is the Lebanese national forces — Amal, the national forces, and the Lebanese National Army as well as the PSP. I believe everyone must learn about the experience that preceded the Israeli invasion.

Franjiyah News Conference on Current Situation

NC151000 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0725 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpts] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah held his weekly news conference yesterday during which he spoke about the current situation in Lebanon. He began the conference by saying: This week the Soviet Union and world lost the departed leader Yuriy Andropov. I offer the family of the departed, as well as the Soviet people and government, my heartfelt condolences.

President Franjiyah added: The events in West Beirut and the southern suburb are the most important events in Lebanon this week. These areas came under military attack into which the Army was dragged by a party faction which is an agent of Israel and has consistently imposed its will on this army. The National Salvation Front [NSF] has repeatedly warned against such actions. It is sufficient to recall the latest statement issued at the NSF meeting in Zgharta a few days before the events took place in West Beirut and the southern suburb.

Franjiyah further said: I would like to take this opportunity to extend my greetings to the wise hero, our ally and friend Nabih Birri. I also greet his courageous and alert movement, which managed to achieve victory for the sound national principles without endangering the security of the homeland and safety of the citizens. This movement transformed West Beirut into an example of sound coexistence and cohesion among the sons of all the Lebanese sects.

The following dialogue then took place between Franjiyah and reporters:

[Question] Your Excellency, given the current developments in Lebanon, has it passed beyond the danger of collapse and disintegration, and will the Lebanese now move from dialogue by artillery to political dialogue?

[Franjiyah] The dialogue by artillery is continuing, and will regrettably continue as long as there are Israeli agents who drag the Army in to protect them. The only hope we have to liberate Lebanon from the Israeli agents is contigent upon the meeting of the Dialogue Committee and upon reaching an agreement on a plan protecting all Lebanese interests and returning to the government its control throughout Lebanon.

[Question] Your Excellency, in light of the current situation, what is the (?goal) of the anticipated second round of dialogue?

[Franjiyah] There is talk of a second dialogue, but, until today, and despite the fact that his excellency the president has specified the venue and date of the meeting, the conditions set for the meeting have not been met. The most important of these conditions is agreement in advance to abrogate the May accord with Israel.

[Question] Does this mean the conference will not be held unless the agreement is abrogated, although you proposed voting on the accord during the meeting in your previous news conference?

[Franjiyah] Has my proposal received an official response?

[Question] Is this a precondition of the NSF?

[Franjiyah] Naturally, this is the NSF's precondition.

[Question] There are reports that the government intends to freeze the agreement and then abrogate it?

[Franjiyah] The government said it would freeze the agreement, but thus far has not responded to the NSF's proposal to vote on the agreement if the meeting takes place.

[Question] The statement issued at the NSF meeting in Zgharta was received with satisfaction. Certain reports say the government will submit the statement as a working paper during the dialogue meeting. Isn't this a positive initiative by the government?

[Frannjyah] Certainly this is a positive step, but to what extent will we succeed during our meeting in reaching a concurrence by both sides on our views?

[Question] It seems there are positive aspects on both sides. There will be no salvation for Lebanon except through this way.

[Franjiyah] Every step leads to bringing the views closer [words indistinct], but we want deeds not words. Until action is begun, words are easy to say.

[Question] Your Excellency, there are fears that the crisis will be frozen for a new period of time. How can Lebanon emerge from this crisis?

[Franjiyah] All of this is contingent upon an official decision. If the official decisionmaker wants to act, the road is open; if he continues to speak and not act, there is no hope for salvation.

[Question] Do you expect the security situation to deteriorate?

[Franjiyah] The deterioration of the security situation is continuing, and regrettably, increasing in the mountain and suburb.

[Question] What are the possible results of the abrogation of the [Lebanese-Israeli] agreement?

[Franjiyah] The U.S. and Israeli threats will be no more dangerous than what has already occurred. The Israeli Government is on the verge of (?falling). Let Israel do what it wants. We cannot fight Israel because it is stronger than us, but at the same time we cannot put our necks on the block for Israel, because it is our biggest enemy.

[Question] In light of the current developments, will the NSF meet to determine the next stage?

[Franjiyah] The NSF met 5 days ago, and its meetings are continuing and will continue if necessary.

[Question] Your Excellency, is it in the interests of Lebanon to remain without a government until the Dialogue Conference convenes?

[Franjiyah] The Cabinet has definitely resigned but is still entrusted with the discharge of its duties. If it transpires that there is hope for convening a second round of the Dialogue Conference in Geneva, I hope a cabinet will be formed after such a meeting, if they want it to be one of national accord. The appointment of a new cabinet will only represent one trend.

[Question] Reports have been circulating about the possibility of convening a Lebanese-Syrian summit. Do you believe circumstances are favorable for the convocation of such a summit?

[Franjiyah] The circumstances for convening a Lebanese-Syrian summit are better today than they have been. However, there is the condition of abrogating the agreement with Israel before such a summit can be convened. Any Lebanese-Syrian meeting would certainly be in Lebanon's interest, because any alienation from sister Syria will only produce bad results for Lebanon. As Lebanon needs fraternal Syria, the latter needs Lebanon. Any alienation between fraternal Syria and Lebanon brings results detrimental to Syria and particularly Lebanon. I hope with all my heart that this summit will be convened.

Monte Carlo Interviews Karami on Developments

JN101957 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1745 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Interview with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami by Radio Monte Carlo correspondents Louis Faris and Antoine Abu Samra carried within weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Louis Faris] Your Excellency Prime Minister Rashid Karami, today you issued the final statement on the meetings of the Lebanese National Salvation Front's [NSF] Command Council. It has been noticed that this statement does not refer to President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation. Does this mean there are differences of opinion or conflicts among the NSF members?

[Karami] There are no conflicts among the NSF members and there are no differences of opinion on general matters and details. We cooperate for the sake of the interests of people who have been suffering from this tragic situation for the past 9 years, and who, during the recurrent disputes which take place, become afflicted with more tribulations than they have experienced in the past. I have learned that the damages that were inflicted on Beirut this time equal all that had befallen Beirut in all previous times. I would now like to emphasize that the regime has become a party to the dispute. Therefore, it is now on equal footing with any party or group participating in the fighting. It makes no difference that the instrument it uses in this dispute is the Lebanese Army which has been dragged into the internecine fighting and tribulation which our people are experiencing. What kind of legitimacy is this which permits itself to kill the sons of these people? When we called for keeping the Army out of domestic disputes, we meant to remove the Army from this sedition so that it wouldn't have any negative effects on the Army's unity because we take care in having a national army that will defend the citizen and homeland. We now have an Army which is divided and fighting the sons of its people. This is a situation we sought to avoid.

[Abu Samra] Your Excellency, in the NSF statement you speak of the unification of the Army. What does this unification mean? Does it mean that the Hammanah barracks will be reincorporated in the Lebanese Army? Or that the forces which joined the Amal Movement will also return to the Army? What exactly does this unification mean?

[Karami] Unification means that the Army will have a clear national policy, and that it must work to support the policy of the state as any army in the world is supposed to. This is what we meant when we said our Army must work within the framework of law and policy. The Army must know whose its enemies are and how to deal with them. The unification of the Army must take place in this context.

[Abu Samra] Does the NSF statement commit all the parties, including Walid Junblatt, whose stand is to some extent different from yours? Walid Junblatt, for example, calls for Al-Jumayyil's resignation or the need for him to commit suicide. What is the true stand of the NSF on the president of the Republic's resignation?

[Karami] We work in accordance with political bases and principles through which we seek to serve our people, relatives, and citizens. As I said, the regime in Lebanon has become a party in the dispute, fighting with the others on equal footing. This makes us dutybound to redress this serious deviation, especially since we say in our statement that there is a party which is imposing its hegemony and trends on the regime. This point also makes us adopt a clear and overt stand toward the regime, though our friend and ally, Walid Junblatt, has gone further to the point of calling for the president of the Republic's resignation. He has the right to do so in the wake of the fierce attacks carried out against the area which he represents. No one can say that we do not support any stand which seeks to deliver Lebanon and the people from this tribulation.

[Abu Samra] Your Excellency, you say the regime has become a party to the dispute. Does this mean you will deal with the regime as one of the sides of the dispute?

[Karami] There is no doubt that we shall deal with the regime in light of its practices and behavior. When it deviates from the Constitution and supreme national interest, and when it commits aggressions against the security of the citizens, their belongings, and properties, it makes us dutybound to confront it.

[Abu Samra] Let us speak frankly, Your Excellency. Is there a possibility for resuming dialogue with President Amin al-Jumayyil?

[Karami] When I was previously asked about my stand on the second Geneva conference, I said: What use would it be to attend this conference when the regime did not abide by what was agreed on at the first Geneva conference? We are not one of those who like to waste time, play on the people's feelings, and deride their interests. That is why we believe in the credibility of those with whom we deal and their commitment to what had been agreed because the public interest first and foremost requires one's commitment.

[Karami] A last question, Your Excellency: What information do you have regarding what is taking place in West Beirut, and what opinion do you have on that?

[Karami] The information I have is that the situation in West Beirut has become stable with respect to the armed elements and interests of the citizens, and that the forces there are working to secure all the services needed, particularly on the level of the citizens' security. From this premise, I wonder about an important matter, that of the withdrawal of the Multinational Forces, or their majority, particularly the Marines who left the arena for the warships and seashore. I understand from some analysts that this has taken place under the influence of the domestic factor in the United States, that is the U.S. elections. Despite the withdrawal, they continue to use their warships and guns to commit aggressions against our people and kinfolk. How do we explain this contradiction? On the one hand, they withdraw, and on the other they strike at our people. We consider this political deception and an attempt to exploit the circumstances in the service of personal, partisan, and election designs. A big power like the United States would have been better off had its leaders abided by the principles of its people which are based on freedom, democracy, and the defense of the people's rights, instead of exploiting those principles in service of their designs and interests.

[Abu Samra] Your Excellency, don't you believe that the evacuation of foreign nationals and ambassadors from West Beirut is a sign that a serious threat is being posed to that part of the city?

[Karami] From where does the threat come? If it comes from them, this will be a very painful thing, as it will make them become a party in the domestic dispute. Of what concern is this to them when we differ with the regime, and when we highlight and specify the errors in its policy? Why are they striking a faction of the Lebanese people which is trying to lift injustice from its shoulders and seeking to liberate its country and safeguard its national unity? We no longer understand what colonialism wants from us. We will continue to resist, no matter how strong they are because our right will remain stronger.

[Abu Samra] Do you believe that Andropov's death will affect international policy in the region?

[Karami] I do not believe that the policy of states, particularly socialist states, is based on personal interests or trends and inclinations. These states define their policies in light of their interests, principles, and objectives. That is why I don't believe that Andropov's death will have any influence on the USSR's stand toward our just and national struggle. On this occasion, I extend to the friendly USSR my sincere condolences.

[Abu Samra] Thank you, Your Excellency.

Iddih Says Marine Pullout Aimes at Partition
PM150954 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 10 Feb 84 p 3

[Interview with National Bloc leader Raymond Iddih by 'Ali ash-Shubashi in Paris — date not given]

[Excerpts] Lebanese National Bloc leader and Chamber of Deputies member Raymond Iddih has stated that the aim of the U.S. President's decision to withdraw the U.S. Marines from Beirut is primarily to partition Lebanon. In an interview with *'UKAZ*, Iddih said there are three possible interpretations of the U.S. MNF contingent's withdrawal from Beirut to U.S. warships offshore:

1. The United States wants to open the way for Israel to reoccupy Lebanon and reach agreement with the Druze to set up a Druze state to act as a barrier between Israel and its neighbors.

2. The step was taken to pave the way for more clashes between the Druze and Christians and between the Shi'ites and Christians so that, with the intensification of these clashes, Israel may be able to relax and settle in the area up to the Al-Awwali River or Al-Litani River.

3. There may be a U.S.-Israeli agreement under which Israel would attack Syria without U.S. participation to avoid confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The Lebanese leader said the withdrawal of the Marines is not in the interests of the Lebanese people or their unity.

Asked by *'UKAZ* whether he would join in the calls for the resignation of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, Iddih said: If President al-Jumayyil fails to reach agreement with the Druze and Shi'ites — bearing in mind that many Christians also do not want the Phalangist regime to continue — then he must resign immediately.

He added that the resignation of the president of the Republic would not entail grave dangers or result in a government vacuum as long as the Chamber of Deputies is functioning, provided naturallythat Israel allows the Chamber to convene in a calm atmosphere.

Asked whether the danger of partition is now greater than ever before, Iddih said: The threat of partition in Lebanon dates back to 1954, when Ben-Gurion tried to partition the country into statelets and to Balkanize the Middle East to enable Israel to control it easily. His aim was to annex southern Lebanon up to the Al-Litani River, claiming that Israel needed its water. The question of partition was also raised after the 1974 Greek-Turkish war in Cyprus, which resulted in its partition into a Turkish Cypriot state and a Greek Cypriot state. I have often warned of the danger of partitioning Lebanon in the interest of Israel — a Cyprus-style partition. Now, with the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut, the danger of partition is greater than ever, and if there is partition Lebanon will be divided between Israel and Syria.

Question: Many circles ask you to play an important part in Lebanese politics in the future. Are you presently considering returning to Lebanon?

Answer: From the very first moment of my presence in France, where I took refuge after the two attempts on my life in early 1976, I have said that I would not return to Lebanon before the withdrawal of the last Israeli and the Syrian Army. I am still active, within my means, as a member of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. I am still a member of the Chamber's Foreign Affairs Committee and leader of the National Bloc which refused to join Pierre al-Jumayyil and Camille Sham'un in their fight against the Palestinians, Druze, and Shi'ites. The National Bloc is a democratic party which believes in a democratic parliamentary system and preservation of human rights and of Lebanon within its constitutional and internationally recognized borders.

Here in Paris I can serve my country better than if I were in Lebanon, where freedom of the press and speech are restricted. From Paris I can travel anywhere in the world and express my political views with complete freedom in the press and on radio. I can struggle for the liberation of my country, Lebanon, and try to work for an end to Israeli aggressions against Lebanon.

DER SPIEGEL Interviews Amal Leader Birri

DW131239 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 13 Feb 84 pp 101-103

[Interview with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri; date and place not given]

[Text] *DER SPIEGEL*: Nabih Birri, your militia has stormed and occupied West Beirut, the Lebanese Army has disintegrated, and the international peace force contingents are withdrawing to their ships. Do you believe that a solution to the Lebanese problem has become easier now as a result of all this?

Birri: Yes, I think so. We have come to the end of the bloody conflicts. Viewed geographically, President Amin al-Jumayyil does not control even 1 square km of Lebanon. The president was too stupid to realize what was at stake. He lost his friends — us — and he did not even win over his relatives — his father and his militia refused to allow the president's army entrance to Christian-controlled East Beirut.

DER SPIEGEL: Are you presently making preparations to occupy East Beirut? Do you want to destroy the Christian Phalangist militia?

Birri: I don't want any more attacks or bloodshed. I have just given orders over the radio to cease firing, although the other side is still shooting.

DER SPIEGEL: Your militia is chasing the Christians out of Muslim West Beirut. Did you order that?

Birri: Not a single Christian has been chased out or killed because he belongs to the Christian religious community. We are only hunting our Phalangist torturers....

DER SPIEGEL: Your militia also did not loot?

Birri: A few cars were broken into and a few shops looted. This was carried out by individuals taking advantage of the confusion to engage in mischief. However, the stolen cars and looted shops belong to Muslims as well as Christians. We have stopped this in the meantime. We want West Beirut to become a model of coexistence in Lebanon. I will permit no one to destroy this model.

DER SPIEGEL: Will you be able to talk your ally, Druze leader Walid Junblatt, into following this model in his territory as well?

Birri: I will meet him soon and press him to also establish such a model in the Shuf area.

DER SPIEGEL: You scored great successes in West Beirut with the assistance of Junblatt as well as the Iranian Revolutionary Guards ...

Birri: Oh, come on. Why don't you also bring up the terrorist Carlos?

DER SPIEGEL: What about him? Is he already with you in Beirut?

Birri: These are ridiculous accusations of the Phalangists. I have also heard that Carlos is in Beirut, but thus far have not had a cup of coffee with him.

DER SPIEGEL: At the Geneva National Reconciliation Conference last November, you said: "Only dialogue and not force can solve Lebanon's problems." No you are letting your guns and militia speak. Can the Lebanese conduct a dialogue only with guns?

Birri: The basic principle of the Amal Movement's policy is dialogue between all conflicting sides in Lebanon. After all, it was I who first expressed the concept of a national reconciliation conference.

DER SPIEGEL: However, the Lebanese politicians staged a political carnival in Geneva.

Birri: You are not doing us justice. We were able to remove our psychological barriers at that time. Unfortunately, after we returned from Geneva, President al-Jumayyil acted against our agreements and expectations. He was too stupid to properly exploit the unique historical opportunity offered him.

DER SPIEGEL: What actually did he do wrong?

Birri: He tried to play us off against each other according to the old method of "divide and conquer." He demonstrated his political immaturity and lack of even the most primitive experience. He is deeply influenced by his father's Phalangist education. It was his fatal mistake that he did not differentiate between the Phalangist parliamentary deputy he was before, and being president of the Republic of Lebanon, who should be there for all Lebanese. He should have known that all the Lebanese are his

sons. However, his Phalangist thinking and actions were stronger ...

DER SPIEGEL: However, he tried continuously to bring peace to Lebanon.

Birri: He went abroad repeatedly because he believed a solution would come from there. If he had dispensed with these foreign trips and instead travelled more in Lebanon, perhaps he would have understood the problems better. However, since he is a fascist, he believes he can solve all problems with weapons and soldiers alone. In this way he led the Army into a catastrophe. He bought weapons for the soldiers and ordered them to kill, just as he had learned in his father's school. He didn't care about the human side of the Lebanse Army.

DER SPIEGEL: That doesn't authorize you to shoot at these soldiers and attack the authority of the state. Your actions led to the disintegration of the Lebanese Army. How is the situation better now?

Birri: Believe me, I never dreamed I would have to do what we had to in recent days. However, we had to defend ourselves against attacks by the president's army and his father's militia. The Amal Movement had been very much in favor of this army, and we sent our sons to join it. Many of us have died, and for this we were called CIA agents by our religious brothers. However, we reject state institutions being made to serve any sort of party interests.

DER SPIEGEL: From the very beginning, this state has been characterized by deep religious antagonisms. Is what the Phalangists maintain, namely, that the Christian minority in the Middle East must defend itself against an overly powerful Muslim majority, really all that wrong?

Birri: That is nonsense. Some 17 religious communities exist in Lebanon, and 16 of them are religious minorities in the Arab world. The truth lies somewhere else.

DER SPIEGEL: Where is that?

Birri: The truth is that since 1943 we Lebanese have not built a state, but a sort of a family farm. Most of the shares in this farm were held by a few Maronite Christians. The remaining Lebanese were the animals on this family farm. However,the Christians can have security only if they allow justice to prevail for all Lebanese.

DER SPIEGEL: In addition to religious quarrels, the East-West conflict has also influenced the disintegration of Lebanon ...

Birri: Lebanon is certainly a part of the world and cannot be viewed or remain in isolation. However, the basic Lebanese problem is one of religion.

DER SPIEGEL: On the one side stands the Christian president with his father and his militia, supported by the United States and Israel; on the other side, you stand with your ally Junblatt, supported by Syria, Libya, Iran, and the Soviet Union.

Birri: You have to look at things this way: If a marriage is happy, no one can interfere. However, if the marriage is unhappy and there are frequent quarrels, every streetsweeper and pedestrian can interfere.

DER SPIEGEL: What foreign aid does the Amal Movement receive?

Birri: Amal is financed by contributions from members and donations. Our relations with Syria are excellent, and Syria is an Arab country. We have friendly relations based on mutual respect with Iran. However, we maintain relations in all directions. I have frequently visited the United States, although I have not yet been to Moscow.

DER SPIEGEL: What are your relations with Al-Qadhdhafi?

Birri: Al-Qadhdhafi is serious about his friendship with us. He must first return our leader. Spare me this Al-Qadhdhafi.

DER SPIEGEL: The Shi'ite community is now probably the largest numerically in Lebanon. Do you want to nominate the state president in the future?

Birri: On the contrary, as a religion, the Shi'ites do not want to do this. However, Shi'ites demand that the existing religious system in Lebanon be abandoned. Qualifications alone, and not a prayer book, should decide who becomes president of Lebanon. This is what we want to achieve now, nothing else.

DER SPIEGEL: Do you dream of a Shi'ite Lebanon with an ayatollah, such as in Iran? Should Lebanese women wear the chador and Lebanese men drink no alcohol?

Birri: This question seems to be a provocation with which you want to incite the world against us. I do not deny that I respect and even admire Khomeyni. However, I am above all a Lebanese serving my people. I am not an Iranian.

DER SPIEGEL: President al-Jumayyil has said: "If I am overthrown, I will have been the last democratically elected president of Lebanon. After me, there will be a revolutionary council controlled by Moscow." Do you believe he means you?

Birri: Al-Jumayyil is right in that if he falls, he will have been the last Phalangist president of Lebanon.

DER SPIEGEL: What should the next Lebanese president be like?

Birri: The next president must have the following two prerequisites: First, he must abrogate the Israeli-Lebanese agreement of 17 May 1983, and second, the political-religious system must be abolished. Peace in Lebanon can be restored only in this way.

DER SPIEGEL: Why do you so uncompromisingly reject the agreement with Israel?

Birri: Because it is turning Lebanon into an Israeli colony. When you read the chapter on security in this agreement, you

find that Israel intends to remain in Lebanon forever.

DER SPIEGEL: However, Israel will not withdraw from Lebanon without this agreement. Can you offer something else to Israel to make it believe its northern border will remain secure?

Birri: I want just the opposite, namely, to know that Lebanon's southern border with Israel is secure. Israel's demand appears as if it is the wolf that should be protected from the sheep. Since 1948, Lebanon has not once threatened anyone. The Israelis occupied our country, we did not occupy theirs. I offer the following to Israel: First, the UN forces in southern Lebanon should be strengthened; second, the Lebanese Army must also move into southern Lebanon; and third, the militia of the Amal Movement will be there as a flanking force for the Lebanese Army to protect the south against Israel, and not the other way around.

DER SPIEGEL: U.S. President Reagan has stated that if the U.S. Forces are withdrawn from Lebanon, chaos and terror will prevail there. In saying this, he also meant you, among others....

Birri: The Americans are already assembling at the airport, and the first of them intend to leave Lebanon today. Reagan's problem it seems to me is that he still believes that all he has to do is just show some muscle. However, a muscle man just flexes his muscles — his brain is not active. He should know that the use of force is the result of oppression. No people in the world — including the Americans — would resort to force if they weren't oppressed. By the way, it has thus far not been proven that we Shi'ites have killed U.S. Marines in Beirut. One thing is certain though: We have never dropped an atom bomb.

DER SPIEGEL: The United States has tried to exert pressure to force Al-Jumayyil to form a government of national reconciliation. Would you still participate in such a government?

Birri: There can no longer be any discussion on that matter following all the massacres that were committed here in recent weeks under Al-Jumayyil. I refuse to cooperate with him in any way. If the president had any decency left, he would immediately disappear from office. That would be the best for him and Lebanon.

Birri Discusses Security Plan, Road to South

NC131954 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri issued a statement today in which he said he is in the process of completing the implementation of the security plan in West Beirut, whereby the Internal Security Forces, together with all the Islamic and nationalist forces, will assume the security responsibility. He said the existing differences regarding the plan, about which rumors are being spread, are over details and not the basic concept.

Birri said: The delay in the implementation of this plan is due to technicalities. The relationship between the Amal Movement and all nationalist forces, especially with the Progressive Socialist Party, is not affected by such rumors. Beirut's nationalism governs us all; Beirut is the mother of Lebanon and the struggle in Lebanon. The rumors being spread and the suspect contacts being made with our brother Christians asking them to leave are desperate attempts aimed at a separation [farz], for which plans have been drawn since 1975. Whatever their religious or party affiliations, the citizens of Beirut are equal; no Lebanese has any advantage over the other.

With regard to the closed road to the south, Birri said he hopes it will reopen within the next 48 hours. He also said there is no need for merchants to hoard supplies. Matters are proceeding well and as quickly as possible.

PSP, Amal Movement To Form Joint Command

JN150911 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] A very well-informed source said in Amman that the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], led by Walid Junblatt, and the Amal Movement, led by Nabih Birri, are preparing to announce soon a joint PSP-AMAL command to supervise security in western Beirut. The source said the dissident Lebanese Army elements would join this command.

PSP, Al-Murabitun Officials Discuss W. Beirut

NC150809 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Anwar al-Fatayri, mobilization commissioner of the Progressive Socialist Party, said the political climate is good, the situation in West Beirut normal, and full agreement and no differences in views exist in this area.

Brother Fatayri affirmed that the Army in West Beirut is preparing to carry out its national duties which will be entrusted to it as an Army defending the homeland against the Zionist enemy.

A meeting was held between Brother Fatayri and Brother Fu'a Hasan, member of the command of the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun. During the meeting, they discussed the current proposals for handling the situation and bringing about stability and security in West Beirut.

Monte Carlo Interviews Lebanese Ba'th Official

JN102320 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Interview with 'Abdallah al-Amin, assistant regional secretary of the Lebanese Ba'th Party branch and official in charge of political guidance, by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Louis Faris in the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text][Faris] You have personally participated in all the meetings that Damascus has witnessed on all levels. How can Syria help in reviving the dialogue between the Lebanese sides, particularly

since some of them have said they will no longer negotiate with the Lebanese president. Do you or does the Lebanese Ba'th Party branch still believe that the opportunity for a Lebanese dialogue is still present? Or what do you see as a way out of the present impasse?

[Al-Amin] Syria is playing an effective role in rescuing Lebanon by encouraging its allies in the Lebanese arena to move toward the dialogue. As for how the dialogue will take place and with whom, these matters must be specificed; that is, the dialogue cannot be partial but must take place within certain indispensable controls and bases. In our opinion, the dialogue's controls and objectives at the current phase center on two matters; first, canceling the 17 May agreement — an agreement that has been described by several parties as the agreement of the impasse. It must be canceled to come out of the impasse. Second, convincing all the parties to end the hegemony of their different political parties over the Lebanese authorities. There will be no dialogue under either the hegmony or the 17 May agreement. When these two matters are settled, with all the complications and violations that have taken place since President al-Jumayyil assumed power, beginning with the legislative decrees that conflict with the Constitution, laws, and general principles, and ending with the political party determined appointments to the various vital departments in Lebanon, the dialogue will then take place. Otherwise, there will be no dialogue in Lebanon under the Phalange Party's hegemony over the country.

[Faris] Mr al-Amin, let us now discuss the subject of the resignation. We have noticed that neither Syria nor the Lebanese Ba'th Party branch has adopted a stand calling for the Lebanese president's resignation. What is yours and the Ba'th Party's stand on this resignation?

[Al-Amin] The Ba'th Party in Lebanon is a member of the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] and a constituent political party in the Front. We are committed to the Front's political decisions and are working within its framework. We do not see in this present phase a better national framework than its own framework.

[Faris] We have noticed that the Front's final statement today did not include any reference to the resignation but only called for a series of reforms.

[Al-Amin] The Front's statement today expresses its stand and the stand of its leaders, affirming the matters that it had proposed for discussion during the Zgharta meeting. This stand calls for ending the Phalange Party's hegemony over the Lebanese authorities as the real approach to the dialogue, in addition to canceling the 17 May agreement. The Front and its leadership did not cancel the dialogue. It supports the dialogue, but following the first round of the dialogue that took place in Geneva we must now concentrate efforts to reach a solution. The dialogue is not an end but a means. We must not confuse the end with the means. The dialogue will remain a means. But following all that which took place and confirmed our apprehensions, and after reaffirming the resolutions of the first Geneva conference, we must set controls; namely, ending the hegemony and canceling the agreement. Certainly, when these two matters are fulfilled the Front will see that the dialogue will become more feasible and the hopes to reach a solution will be enhanced.

[Faris] Therefore, the NSF, including the Ba'th Party in Lebanon, is not against the dialogue but supports it within the specific controls you have just mentioned. Don't you think this stand conflicts with that of Walid Junblatt, who is an essential NSF member and who says: There will be no dialogue with Amin al-Jumayyil, no dialogue with the Phalangists as of now. Don't you consider this a contradiction in stands?

[Al-Amin] I do not see any contradiction between what Junblatt and the NSF propose, because Junblatt has made it clear through his own opinion and conviction that it is impossible for the president and the Phalangists to alter their stands. If it is impossible for Al-Jumayyil to alter his stand, then the initiation of the dialogue will not be possible in light of the attitude which the Lebanese regime continues to cling to.

[Faris] Mr al-Amin, my last question: Lebanon has now reached a (?path of conditions). You have just said this. How in your opinion and in the opinion of the Ba'th Party in Lebanon can a way out of this impasse be reached in the near future?

[Al-Amin] Coming out of the dark tunnel has obvious conditions which we, as the NSF and all Lebanese political forces, must work to fulfill. It has become obvious that the agreement of the impasse, the Phalangist hegemony over the Lebanese authorities, and the U.S. military presence in the Lebanese territories are causes for our stay in this tunnel and impasse. Therefore, we must evacuate the U.S. Forces from Lebanon, cancel the agreement, and end the Phalangists' hegemony to begin a dialogue that will take us out of the dark tunnel into the light, so as to be able to liberate our occupied territory from the Israeli enemy, extend the state's sovereignty to all parts of Lebanon, resconstruct what has been demolished by the war, and make the aspired political reforms.

[Faris] Are the channels between Damascus and Ba'abda still open?

[Al-Amin] I don't know much about these channels, but I am aware that Syria deals with Lebanon as a brother who extends its hand to be aided in getting rid of its crisis. I think Syria is using all the methods that will aid Lebanon in rescuing itself from this tribulation, as it did in the past.

[Faris] Does this include dialogue with the Lebanese authorities?

[Al-Amin] I don't know. I have no idea about this matter.

[Faris] Thank you, 'Abdallah al-Amin.

Druze Spiritual Leader Urges Continued Fighting

NC141859 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Statement by Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra, spiritual leader of the Druze community, to the Voice of the Mountain radio on 14 February — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, in whom we seek refuge against the enemies of God. Cubs of Bani 'Ma'ruf [Druze tribes], defenders of the oppressed, o heroes: You are now waging a sacred battle of honor. It is the battle of regaining the sanctities which the treacherous tyrants have desecrated. They have come from far away to 'Bayh and its environs. They have refused the rights of a guest and sought the might of the sword to violate right and justice, practice evil, attack, and kill. Return their evil and uproot them from places which do not accommodate criminals [word indistinct] like them. Cast them from your homes docile and defeated. Rise like hurricanes to storm them. Disgrace and may an evil fate be upon them.

O war heroes, we have no options left. It is either humiliation and disgrace, which we reject, or courage and the elimination of opression and tyranny.

O fortunate cubs, the meeting of the brave brothers in 'Bayh, after purging it from the evildoers, is imminent, God willing. Persevere and stand fast for an hour of steadfastness could bring victory. God is great and will help you against those who stand against the faith.

Religious Leaders Urge Army To Assume Security Role

NC132238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Their Eminences Shaykh Muhammad Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, and Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Lebanese Republic, today issued the following statement following consultations: One of the necessary steps is to develop the security role of the Lebanese Army forces in West Beirut to carry out their security duty, support the Internal Security Forces in their duties, and ensure strict and complete abidance by the cease-fire along the contact lines preparatory to eliminating these lines soon, and to reopening all the crossing points between the two parts of the capital after ascertaining that movement through the museum, port, and At-Tayyunah crossing points, which have already been reopened, is proceeding well.

The statement adds: It is of vital importance for the security and Army forces, which are present in West Beirut, to assume the protection of the public institutions and utilities located in their areas of operation to enable them to resume their activity.

Al-Biqa' Mufti Describes Al-Jumayyil as 'Nero'

NC132048 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] At the nationalist conference held at the mufti's office in Barr Ilyas, His Eminence Shaykh Ra'uf al-Qadiri, mufti of the Al-Biqa', described the shah of B'abda as a fascist dictator and the Nero of the 20th century.

At the conclusion of the conference, the conferees approved recommendations to support the people of the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya against the occupation forces. The conferees also declared their solidarity with the people of Beirut, Beirut's southern suburb, and the mountain.

Phalangist Official in Jubayl Assassinated

NC150612 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] This morning, Ghayth Khuri, head of the Phalange Party branch in Jubayl District, was assassinated when fire was opened on his car near St Therese beach. His wife was wounded and taken to the hospital. The authorities and Phalange Party officials raced to the scene of the incident and began investigations to identify the criminals. The Phalange Party and Jubayl District Phalange Party branch have mourned the deceased. His funeral will take place at 1400 today at his birthplace Qartaba.

PSP Radio on Phalange-Haddad Cooperation

NC141024 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Sources have said that the Phalangist command has decided to merge its militias operating in the south with Sa'd Haddad's agent gangs.

U.S. Interests in Turkey Targets of Terrorists

NC141236 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] According to information available from the Al-Biqa', the Hezbollah and Iranian Revolutionary Guards, in cooperation with the Syrian intelligence service, have trained terrorist elements to strike at U.S. interests in Turkey. There is a group of U.S. experts and a U.S. diplomatic post in the Turkish capital. The terrorists have been furnished with maps and accurate information for their mission.

Army 'Has No Intention' of Taking W. Beirut

NC132002 Paris AFP in English 1910 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Beirut, Feb 13 (AFP) — The Lebanese Army has no intention of trying to take West Beirut from Shi'ite Amal militia because it would mean a "bloodbath", and the Army's role is to defend the people, a Lebanese Army spokesman said today.

The Army has already had 34 of its troops killed and 301 wounded in fighting in Beirut in the past 12 days, an Army spokesman said.

Major Offensive Against Army Positions Reported

Thousands Involved

NC140846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Since 0810 today, Lebanese warplanes have been providing air support to Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur, Qabr Shmun, 'Bayh, and Al-Binnay, which have been subjected to repeated

attacks since midnight. Security sources have told Voice of Lebanon that approximately 3,000 attackers, including Palestinian dissidents and Junblattists are attacking Army positions, while Syrian, Palestinian, and Junblattist artillery are providing them with heavy cover.

The Syrian and Palestinian artillery emplacements and rocket launchers are located in the areas of Ru'aysat An-N'uman, Mansuriyat Bhamdun, Ru'Aysat al-Ballut, and 'Ayn al-Jadidah. Socialist artillery in 'Alayh, Baysur, Kafr Nabrakh, and 'Aynab are participating in the shelling of the Army positions.

The Army artillery, in coordination with other weapons, is violently returning the fire.

Military Source on Fighting

NC140936 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The security situation on the mountain this morning sustained a setback. Battles broke out in which heavy-caliber and medium-caliber weapons were used.

Furthermore a short while ago, a military source made the following statement: The gunmen are continuing their recurring attacks against Army positions in 'Bayh and Qabr Shmun. The Army is repulsing these attacks to defend its positions. Also, Army artillery is shelling the positions and concentrations of the gunmen. Lebanese Air Force planes also afforded our positions air-to-ground support.

A military source also made the following statement: Our forces are still defending their positions with steadfastness and determination. Our forces are inflicting losses of life and equipment.

Army Recovers Positions

NC140949 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0935 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese Army has recovered its positions in 'Ayn Ksur following an artillery shelling backed by Air Force attacks. Tallat al-Binnay is now empty of gunmen after heavy shelling by the Army.

U.S. Navy Shells Mountain

NC141055 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1042 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] U.S. sources have confirmed to Voice of Lebanon that a U.S. warship off the Lebanese coast shelled Syrian military positions this morning in Upper al-Matn and the mountain. The shelling came after Lebanese Army and Marine positions in the airport perimeter received concentrated artillery shelling. A missile-carrying destroyer fired eleven 5-inch rounds on the hostile positions.

PSP Claims Advances

NC141255 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1244 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Amir as-Sayyid 'Abdallah operation to regain the sacred land is about to be completed in the western Ash-Shahhar axis. Al-Binnay and 'Ayn Ksur have been liberated. The forces of the Progressive Socialist Party are now advancing toward 'Abayh. Approximately 30 Army cars have been destroyed and many captives, including 5 officers and 50 soldiers, have been taken.

Commander Wounded

NC141320 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1306 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Our security correspondent has reported that the commander of the [Lebanese] Airborne Landing Force in 'Ayn Ksur has been seriously wounded. Afterwards, his soldiers escaped from the battlefield and are currently retreating in the direction of 'Ayn Drafil, Bi'wirta, and 'Bayh. Meanwhile, the Progressive Socialist Party forces are continuing their advance on all axes.

Source Denies Hawker Downed

NC141357 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A Lebnaese military source has denied that a Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter participating in the attack on foreign gunmen's positions in the mountain has been shot down.

Air Force Resumes Attacks

NC141441 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A formation of Lebanese Air Force planes again intervened at 1545 today, giving air support to ground forces on the Qabr Shmun-'Ayn Ksur-al-Binnay axis, which has been the scene of violent clashessince last night. A security source has confirmed tht these planes attacked the positions of gunmen attacking Army positions in the area. Violent battles occurred on the mountain axes this afternoon, during which various kinds of weapons were used.

Army 'Redeployment' in Mountain

NC141543 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A military source has stated the following:

Army positions in the western Ash-Shahhar area have been subjected to attacks by gunmen since last night. The gunmen are supported by heavy reinforcements [(clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic at 1502 GMT on 14 Feb in a similar report identifies these reinforcements as Palestinian] supplied with tanks and rocket launchers. These weapons were specially brought to support these attacks. The Army units defended their

positions with rare bravery, in a battle in which they were outnumbered, and regained all the positions they lost this morning.

After reorganizing themselves, the gunmen brought in more reinforcements via Dahr al-Baydar Road and launched an attack against Army positions. This required the redeployment of Army forces to new positions.

'Ferocious' Battles on Mountain Axes

NC141705 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1634 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following security report:

Ferocious battles are now raging between the Lebanese Army on the one hand and Palestinian, Syrian, and Junblattist forces' gunmen on the other on the axes of Al-Binnay, 'Bayh, 'Ayn Drafil, Kafr Matta, and Bi'warta. The foreign gunmen brought in fresh reinforcements from Al-Biqa' equipped with heavy tanks, various types of weapons, and rocket launchers. The gunmen paved the way for their attacks by directing concentrated artillery shelling against Lebanese Army positions from Syrian emplacements in Al-Biqa' and Upper al-Matn. Artillery shelling was directed from Palestinian emplacements in Bhamdun as well.

As a result of the repeated attacks on the steadfast Lebanese Army, the Army had to redeploy its troops and withdraw from some positions in Al-Binnay and 'Ayn Ksur and to reinforce other positions, forming a new defensive line.

U.S. Naval Fire Noted

NC141925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A security source reports that the security situation became tense this evening as U.S. warships bombarded certain areas in the mountain firing approximately 40 shells. In addition, the perimeters of Al-Yarzi, Al-Hazimiyah, and Al-Hadath came under artillery shelling.

A military source has said that during the operations in the western Ash-Shahhar area, the 4th Brigade's communication signals were jammed, disrupting communications within the brigade and with its headquarters, and negatively affecting the progress and results of the operations.

Army Infighting Reported

NC150625 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] While the Lebanese Army has tightened its control of Suq al-Gharb and the battles have subsided noticeably in the mountain, it has been reported that the Army is maintaining its presence in the lower portion of Bi'wirta and on the coastal road up to Ad-Damur.

The mountain gunmen and colluding secessionists have reached the Ma'tuq coffee shop in the Khaldah autostrade, while Amal gunmen have taken up positions on the Khaldah Road junction.

It has been learned that in collusion with certain known forces, Army personnel opened fire on their colleagues, and officers and soldiers were martyred outside the framework of the battles. The traitorous personnel tried to steal Army vehicles.

Army Defections, Desertions

NC150727 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The military situation is summed up in clashes on the axes of Dqun and B'iwirta. The Lebanese Army has redeployed on the coastal road in the area. Several Lebanese Army officers and soldiers have defected and joined the gunmen in West Beirut. These defections have led to Amal and Socialist control of the Khaldah area and to Palestinian, Syrian, and socialist gunmen advances in the western Ash-Shahhar area.

How did the west Ash-Shahhar battle begin yesterday and what was the role of treason in it?

According to information from military men who were on the battlefield, the battalion stationed on the frontline on the Al-Binnay-Qabr Shmun front was under the command of Captain al-Walid Sukkariyah, assisted by Captain Joseph al-Haj. The front was calm and there were no indications that something was remiss, when Al-Walid Sukkariyah summoned his assistant, Capt Joseph al-Haj, to a forward position on the front. When Capt al-Haj arrived, gunmen with Captain Sukkariyah kidnapped him and took him to an unknown destination. His whereabouts are still not known.

Afterward, Sukkariyah joined the gunmen, and the attack began on the Army under cover of artillery and rocket fire.

When the military men did not find an officer to give them orders — after Al-Haj's kidnapping and Sukkariyah's defection to the gunmen — confusion prevailed in their ranks and they began to retreat. When the news reached the command, it quickly sent mechanized reinforcements which, with the support of the Lebanese Air Force, regained the Army positions in the area. However, the gunmen repeated their attacks on the positions.

Using two Motorolla radios which were with traitor Capt al-Walid Sukkariyah, the gunmen began jamming the command's orders and gave orders to the Lebanese Army personnel to withdraw to An-Na'mah. There was also confusion in radio communications. The Army commander in the area used to give orders for steadfastness while the gunmen gave orders to withdraw using the radios in the possession of Capt Sukkariyah. This again led to confusion in the military situation, compelling the Army, under the pressure of repeated attacks, to withdraw to the coast. During these battles and afterward, several desertions and defections occured in the Army ranks, which weakened its ability to stand fast and enabled the gunmen to achieve a quick advance.

'Guarded Calm' in Mountain

NC150813 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Following the heroic battle that the Progressive Socialist Party, Amal Movement, and the national and Islamic forces fought, which led to the liberation of the entire western Ash-Shahhar area and Khaldah Triangle from the domination of the Phalangist gangs and the ruling family's army, a guarded calm is prevailing in the mountain axes and southern suburb. This calm is occasionally marred by machine gun fire and sporadic explosions.

Rumor on Killing of Army Officer Denied

NC150955 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Statement by the Lebanese Army Command's Guidance Directorate issued on 15 February]

[Text] Some media have circulated a rumor to the effect that an Army officer was killed by his comrades in an Army unit during the west Ash-Shahhar operation. The Army Command categorically denies this rumor and affirms that the military men from the various communities and in all positions are united.

Resistance Men Attack Israelis in An-Nabatiyah

NC140805 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] In the south, Lebanese national resistance fighters have kept up their attacks against the Zionist enemy wherever he is. In so doing, these men affirm they are the more honorable alternative to the 17 May agreement. Therefore, only a few hours following Yitzhaq Shamir's statement to the effect that his forces will withdraw from Lebanon only after security arrangements have been made, Lebanese National Resistance men attacked a Zionist patrol in the town of An-Nabatiyah. An enemy vehicle was destroyed and a large number of the enemy was killed or wounded.

Al-Asad Congratulates USSR's Chernenko

JN141405 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Feb 84

["Text" of congratulatory cable President Hafiz al-Asad sent to Konstantin Chernenko — date not specified]

[Text] On your election as the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, I would like to congratulate you in my own name and on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Command for the great confidence the CPSU Central Committee has placed in you. We hope that you will succeed in promoting the strength and position of the friendly USSR and in achieving additional success and progress for the Soviet people in both the domestic and foreign spheres.

On this occasion, I would like to stress the close and strong relations and friendship that have developed between both parties and countries, and that have been entrenched by the friendship and cooperation agreement between the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR. I would also like to assert that this agreement is the correct and strong base for developing and strengthening future cooperation for the well-being and interests of both people and countries; for the issue of peace, freedom, and progress in the world; and for the people's joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism, and warmongering.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party

Deputy Premier Receives USSR Ambassador

JN141550 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Feb (SANA) — 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, today received the USSR ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, they discussed the establishment of the thermoelectric station in the Damascus area and economic relations between the two countries.

Libya's Jallud Has Second Meeting With Khaddam

LD141345 Tripoli JANA in English 0835 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, Jumada al Ulla 11, Feb 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmed Jallud yesterday evening conferred in Damascus with the Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Staff Major Jallud had conferred with Mr Khaddam last Sunday evening immediately after his arrival in Damascus.

Jallud Meets Palestinian Leaders

LD141353 Tripoli JANA in English 0833 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 11, Feb 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud yesterday evening conferred in Damascus with Abu Salih, member of the new revolutionary leadership in "Fatah", Ahmed Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC, and Talal Naji, assistant secretary of the PFLP-GC. Staff Major Jallud also conferred with the chairman of the Palestine National Council Mr Khalid al-Fahum.

Education Minister Leaves for Tehran 14 Feb

JN141600 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Feb (SANA) — Minister of Education Muhammad Najib as-Sayyid Ahmad left Damascus this morning for Tehran on an official visit of several days to Iran. During the visit, the minister will hold talks with the Iranian officials to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the spheres of education and culture, and will sign the cultural agreement between Iran and Syria for the years 1984-1985 and 1986.

Upcoming Response to Challenge, Jordan Threat Viewed

JN150741 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column and under the headline "A New Phase of Aggression," the newspaper *TISHRIN* writes: While the Americans, their Zionist allies, and their agents in the Lebanese regime are renewing and intensifying their threats against the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces, a White House spokesman has announced that talks yesterday between President Reagan and King Husyan dealt with the military threat that Syria poses to Jordan. This means that the Jordanian regime has a role to play in the U.S. aggression against Syria, especially after President Reagan has asserted that the withdrawal of the U.S. Marines to the U.S. ships off the Lebanese coast does not mean leaving Lebanon because there will be no departure from Lebanon at all.

Naturally, Israel will join such an aggression after reports about its agreement on the formation of the Jordanian rapid deployment force, provided it takes part in this force. This shows that the United States will renew its attempts to establish a regional alliance under its command in which the Jordanian regime, Israel, the Lebanese regime and its militias, and the Arab bloc of reactionaries and renegades such as the Egyptian regime will take part.

After speaking about the continuous U.S. forces' shelling of the Lebanese people in order to cover up the U.S.-Jordanian-Egyptian talks in Washington, *TISHRIN* says: In view of this serious situation, the Arab liberation forces should pool their resources and coordinate their efforts in order to face the new alliance of aggression, defeat its designs, and foil its aims. The U.S. Administration fully means what it says when it affirms that the transfer of the Marines from the Lebanese land to the sea does not mean leaving Lebanon. Israel does not even try to conceal its plan to participate in the Jordanian rapid deployment force. Moreover, the Lebanese regime, whose intentions need not be disclosed, is continuing its shelling and bombing of Lebanese citizens.

Concluding its comment, *TISHRIN* asks: Is it not our duty to admit the seriousness of this phase and recognize the need to face this challenge with all the means available to us? The forces that are participating in the alliance of aggression will not be calm and will not lay dawn their arms unless the edge of their swords are blunted and unless they recognize the strength of the pan-Arab forces against them. Will the response to this challenge be on the level of its threats and seriousness? This will be revealed during the next few weeks or even during the next few days.

AL-BA'TH Comments on U.S. Diplomacy in Lebanon
JN140833 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, *AL-BA'TH* says: U.S. diplomacy wants — as it wanted in the past when it was cornered in various areas of the world — to talk to the world in two contradictory ways. The first tends to admit the fait accompli and recognize the failure of its plans along the Lebanese coast, southern Beirut, and the mountain as a result of the defeat of its allies in the Phalangist Army and militias. The second shows hollow claims, and brags about strong military forces in the Mediterranean that are less than 1,000 meters from Beirut.

The first logic was manifested in a practical way by withdrawing the U.S. forces from the Lebanese land and transferring the Marines by helicopter to the U.S. warships. Many observers have interpreted this move as the beginning of the final U.S. evacuation from Lebanon. Yesterday and the day before, George Bush expressed the second logic when he said that the Marines will remain in Lebanon and that the United States will offer great assistance to Al-Jumayyil's regime in Lebanon in order to enable it to fight terrorism there, as he put it.

Those who know the U.S. political approach during the Reagan administration will not find such a contradiction strange. They will not consider it to be a deviation from the basic political principles on which Reagan bases his attitude toward the world. Reagan wants to impose his ambitions in any part of the world he chooses. Washington has many times reached a dilemma that it did not know how to solve or a dilemma where it did not know how to reconcile its military prestige with its defeats at the hands of the nationalists. The United States is currently expressing many alternatives. It has lost its way after losing all sense of direction.

Nevertheless, Washington will eventually resort to the logic that is decided by the nationalism of any group of people, such as the Lebanese people. Washington's last step will not be of its own choice. It will be toward the American continent. It will take all of its fleets, soldiers, and ambitions with it. All of this will not take a long time. It is about to happen now, after our steadfastness and sincere adherance to principles have borne fruit. We have the support of all the pure Lebanese nationalist forces.

Shamir on Dialogue With USSR, UN Force

TA151109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Israel is prepared to examine the possibility of a dialogue with the Soviet Union about relations between the two countries and about the Middle East. This is what the prime minister said in the Knesset. In his opinion, the Soviet Union could also help the area's affairs in the UN Security Council during the debates on the French proposal to send a UN force to Lebanon. Israel, Yitzhaq Shamir emphasized, is not opposed to such a force.

Shamir To Visit Netherlands Beginning 22 Feb

TA121239 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 p 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will hold a state visit to the Netherlands beginning 22 February. He will meet the prime minister, the foreign minister and other members of the Netherlands Government.

Shamir will go to the Netherlands following a 3-day visit to Brussels, Belgium, where he will participate in the conference of the Western European foreign ministers. One of the subjects to be raised in this conference will be Israeli ties with the EEC.

The visit to the Netherlands is largely intended to renew the special ties of friendship with that country, considered until the Lebanese war to be one of Israel's closest friends in Europe. Since the beginning of the war, and particularly after the massacre in Sabra and Shatila, there was a cooling in relations between The Hague and Jerusalem.

Finance Minister Comments on Conditions of U.S. Aid

TA101521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad has said that the United States is not prepared to increase aid to Israel without efforts being made to improve our economic situation. He has said that this year's main effort will be to decrease the deficit in the commercial balance by $1 billion; renew productivity, especially in export industries; and create conditions for the implementation of a free trade zone with the United States.

David Levi Criticizes U.S. on Coordination Policy

TA141434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi today attacked the U.S. Administration for refusing to coordinate its positions on Lebanon with Israel, for contacting Syria — as he put it — and for refraining from pressuring Egypt to cultivate the peace it had agreed upon and signed with Israel. Speaking at a meeting of the conference of presidents of major American Jewish organizations, Minister Levi said President Reagan had decided to remove the Marines without consulting Israel. Although Israel was informed of the matter, to this one could only say: Thank you very much. The deputy prime minister said Israel is reaching the point where it will have to adopt resolutions on Lebanon. Each such decision will guarantee the well-being of the northern settlements and will limit the vulnerability of soldiers. Syria is currently dictating the conditions in Lebanon, and this situation was created as a result of the incorrect assessment — as Minister Levi put it — and a certain degree of weakness on the part of the free world.

Levi also criticized the upcoming meeting, scheduled for today, in Washington between the U.S. President, the Egyptian president, and the king of Jordan.

Reaction to Levi Criticism

TA150903 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Feb 84 p 1

[Report by Yosef Harif]

[Text] Yesterday, U.S. circles in Israel expressed astonishment at the criticism levelled yesterday by Minister David Levi at the Reagan-Mubarak-Husayn meeting.

It turns out that the deputy prime minister did not know that U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis had met with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir the day before, 13 February, for a discussion on the meeting, and had told Shamir that President Reagan had promised him not to take any step in the peace process without coordination with Israel. It was also promised that U.S. moves regarding Lebanon would be coordinated.

U.S. Against Joint Military Operation in Lebanon

TA121040 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 pp 1,2

["Exclusive" report from United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] The United States has rejected an Israeli suggestion for a prolonged, joint military operation with the objective of helping Amin al-Jumayyil overcome his difficulties.

Instead, Washington has come to terms with a political plan initiated by Saudi Arabia which is expected to restore calm to Beirut, to establish a new government under absolute Syrian influence, and to reallocate power in the Lebanese regime. After this plan is implemented, all of the U.S. forces — including the 6th Fleet — would leave Lebanon and its coast. Without explicitly declaring it, the United States would resign itself to the annulment of the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent has learned that Israel told the United States it must not hesitate to use considerable force in order to repel the Muslim attack on Al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese Army. Israel argued that the U. S.' determination, substantiated by extensive military aid, would change the military balance in Beirut and would halt the advance of the Muslims. Israel expects the U.S. Navy planes to be forcefully used against the Syrian Army and its proxies in Lebanon in order to stop the assault on the Lebanese Army. Israel has made it clear that such

a strong U.S. move could be assisted by the IDF, on the condition that it is made clear that the main military effort came from the United States. The White House rejected the Israeli suggestions and opted for withdrawing the Marines and limiting itself to artillery assistance to the Lebanese Army. Israel maintained that military assistance of this nature could not change the outcome of the battles in Beirut.

Ambassador Rosenne Worried by Mubarak Statements

TA150719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Reacting to President Mubarak's remarks in Washington last night, Israel's ambassador to Washington, Me'ir Rosenne, said he was worried by the statements. Rosenne said that Egypt was violating the Camp David agreements, and now does not feel it is right to express public support for the accords.

HA'ARETZ Reports Meeting With Egypt Upcoming

TA150745 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Feb 84 p 1

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] The directors general of the Egyptian and Israeli Foreign Ministries are to meet in about 2 weeks in the Beersheba or southern Sinai regions, and they will sign new agreements. This has been reported by a senior Egyptian source. The source commented that senior police officers, Foreign Ministry officials, and military personnel from both countries are to attend the meeting.

Among the Egyptian participants are General (Ma'bir), and, from Israel, Commander Kaspi from the Southern District, and apparently also the chairman of the Israeli-Egyptian military committee, Brigadier General Dov Si'on.

The Egyptian source also commented that there had not been a meeting in such a format for a very long time. There has not yet been a decision about exactly where this meeting will take place.

Husayn Rejects Appeals for Cooperation

TA150623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Husayn has rejected appeals by Israel for closer ties in various spheres common to both countries. Our political correspondent reports that the Jordanian monarch's reply was conveyed to Jerusalem by U.S. figures who talked to the king. According to Husayn, there is no room for cooperation so long as no way is found to continue the peace process, and the settlements in the territories are not frozen.

Prime Minister Shamir has recently addressed himself to the Jordanian king on a number of occasions, and appealed for cooperation in joint enterprises which will contribute to the welfare of both countries. He asked U.S. personalities to transmit these messages to the king.

RAKAH Leaders Meet PLO Delegation in Moscow

TA141958 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1845 GMT 14 Feb 84

["RAKAH Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 14 Feb (ITIM) — RAKAH Secretary General MK Me'ir Wilner and Deputy Secretary General MK Tawfiq Tubi, who are in Moscow and attended Andropov's funeral, met today with a PLO delegation currently in Moscow, headed by Yasir 'Arafat. In addition to 'Arafat, the PLO delegation also included Abu Mazin ['Abbas Mahmud], as well as PLO Ambassador to Moscow Rami Sha'r.

At the end of the meeting, a joint communique was issued, saying: The conversation touched upon fundamental problems of the Middle East and the struggle for peace. It was emphasized once again that it is necessary, in order to implement a just peace, to materialize the peace plan whose basic guidelines were expressed both in the Fes resolutions as well as in the resolutions adopted by the PLO council held in Algiers, which adopted the Fes and Brezhnev plans. It means that Israel must withdraw from all the territories it has captured since 1967, that a Palestinian state should be estalbished, and that the peace and security of all the countries in the region — including Israel and the future Palestinian state — should be maintained. The withdrawal of Israel and the United States from Lebanon, is, in the opinion of the two delegations, essential for peace. The Israli delegation expressed solidarity, on behalf of the peace forces in Israel and HADASH, with the just struggle of the Palestinian people against the conquest and with the independence and national sovereignty aspirations and the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, led by the PLO — the recognized representative of the Palestinian people. Yasir 'Arafat and the other members of the PLO delegation expressed appreciation for and solidarity with the struggle of the peace forces in Israel who oppose the conquest, and express solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people. The conversation was conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

Patrol Crosses Al-Awwali, Returns to Base 14 Feb

TA141508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] An IDF mobile patrol crossed the Al-Awwali River today as part of regular security operations and travelled along the coastal road up to the Ad-Damur bridge. Our military correspondent reports that the unit included, among other vehicles, some tanks as well as armored personnel carriers. Upon completing the patrol, the unit returned to its home base.

Refugees Permitted To Cross South of Al-Awwali

TA142108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Thousands of refugees this evening have reached the Al-Awwali River bridges with the hope of crossing into the area controlled by Israel. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the refugees have fled the Christian villages on the outskirts of Beirut following attacks by the Druze and the Shi'ites. The

IDF has opened the bridges and it was decided to keep them open all night long. So far some 600 vehicles, transporting approximatley 2,500 refugees, have entered southern Lebanon. The IDF's relief unit has been providing them with something warm to drink, and has also prepared places to sleep, blankets, and food. It looks as though most of the refugees have found a shelter in the homes of relatives in the Sidon area.

Lebanese 4th Brigade Remnant Crosses Al-Awwali
TA150854 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Some 45 soldiers of the Lebanese Army last night crossed the Al-Awwali bridges into southern Lebanon. They belong to the 4th Brigade, which collapsed under the Druze attack yesterday. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that several dozen more Lebanese soldiers — remnants of this brigade — are at present concentrated north of the Al-Awwali bridges, and they too hope to cross into southern Lebanon, into the Sidon area, but are awaiting confirmation from the Defense Ministry in Beirut. Many of the Lebanese soldiers left the scene of the fighting without their personal weapons.

IDF Officers Meet With Christian, Druze Leaders
TA150615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Senior IDF officers last night held discussions with Christian and Druze leaders on ways of putting a stop to the fighting and preventing the civilian population in Lebanon from being harmed. Security sources in southern Lebanon spoke to our correspondent Hayim Hecht of their serious concern of massacres once the Druze and terrorists take over the Christian villages north of the Al-Awwali.

Phalangists in South Lebanon To Join Haddad Forces
TA150909 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Feb 84 p 2

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] In the near future, some 400 Phalangists now in southern Lebanon are going to join the territorial brigade founded by Major Haddad.

The decision by the Phalangist commanders in southern Lebanon to close their camps and join Haddad's forces was preceded by prolonged negotiations in which the Phalangists set conditions that were unacceptable to Israel and Haddad.

In the past, the Phalangists demanded that they be recruited as part of Haddad's brigade, not as individuals. They also presented a long list of demands for command posts in the brigade as an essential condition for their recruitment.

'Terrorists' Reported Nearing IDF Lines
TA150739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Rejectionist front terrorists are fighting with the Druze who have taken over Christian villages in the Khaldah region. This was reported by refugees who arrived last night from the vicinity of Ad-Damur. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that reference is to Habash's and Hawatimah's men, who positioned themselves in the region of 'Alayh, Bhamdun, and Al-Mansuriyah when the fighting in Tripoli stopped. So far the Druze have prevented them from crossing into the south.

The refugees arriving in southern Lebanon relate that terrorists have also been seen in the Sunnite villages of Barja and Shhim, north of the Al-Awwali. There is considerable influence by the Lebanese Communist Party in these villages. Security sources in southern Lebanon fear that this will help the terrorists reorganise their bases near the lines along which the IDF is deployed.

IDF Warns Druze Against Massacres
TA150905 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Walter and Menahem Rahat]

[Text] Yesterday, Israel warned the Druze leaders in Lebanon not to collaborate with the terrorists if they find themselves able to cut Ad-Damur off from Beirut and join up with the Shi'ite forces in Beirut. The Druze were also warned not to commit a massacre against the Christian population in the areas they conquer.

Yesterday, representatives of the Lebanese Druze met with IDF officers. Both sides discussed the situation and the possible developments in Lebanon within the next few days. In these contacts the Druze were warned against collaboration with the terrorists.

Since fighting began in Beirut about 2 weeks ago, dozens of terrorists have succeeded in infiltrating the southern Lebanese region, and many others have returned to Beirut and joined their comrades who filtered into the capital last year.

Yesterday, security sources pointed out that the situation did not commit Israel to any moves beyond what it must do to safeguard the IDF soldiers in Lebanon. The sources explained that the IDF was keeping an alert watch over events in Lebanon, and decisions about how to act would be made in accordance with developments.

Druze Will Not Permit Terrorists in Area
TA150913 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0852 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Druze notables in Israel stated this morning, on behalf of Druze leaders in Lebanon, that the Druze there will not permit the terrorists to enter areas north of the Al-Awwali. This was

stated in response to reports published on terrorists having entered areas inhabited by Druze, and following reports claiming that Druze were fighting side by side with terrorists against the Lebanese Army.

Our reporter Menahem Horowitz notes that there is satisfaction in the Druze villages in northern Israel following reports arriving from Lebanon to the effect that key positions have been seized by Druze fighters there.

Government Rejects Southern Lebanese Aid Request
TA150743 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Israeli authorities have turned down a request from South Lebanese to extend vital services to their villages. The request came during a meeting this week of Shi'ite and Maronite representatives with senior officials, including Communication Minister Mordekhay Tzipori.

The Lebanese asked the government to renovate school buildings, tar impassable roads, install telephones in homes, and cover part of the cost of development projects. They explained that the Bierut government has deliberately neglected them as if they were not Lebanese and therefore they have the right to seek foreign aid from a neighboring country.

The Israeli officials told them such a move would be interpreted abroad as an Israeli attempt to annex South Lebanon.

'Special Funds' To Finance IDF in Lebanon
TA130547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] As of the coming fiscal year the Finance Ministry will give the Defense Ministry special funds, beyond the regular defense budget, in order to finance the IDF's stay in Lebanon. This has been learned by our correspondent Gadi Sukenik.

A conclusion on this matter has been reached in the framework of the discussions on the defense budget cut. Everything related to this financing will be examined again in due course.

Our correspondent has further learned that in the framework of this agreement, the cost of a day's stay in Lebanon will be calculated at several hundreds of thousands of dollars and not as $1 million per day as calculated in public deliberations and in media reports.

Our correspondent adds that only one question, that of the national insurance institute, now remains to conclude the deliberations on the state budget cut.

The Finance Ministry hopes that an agreement will be reached on this issue too within a short while and thus it will be possible to submit the new state budget to the Knesset next week.

Lebanese Phalangists Open Jerusalem Office
TA141428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The Christian Phalangists of Lebanon have opened a permanent liaison office in Jerusalem. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a has learned that the office is headed by Pierre Yazbak, who is a member of the Phalangists' political bureau. For the moment, the office will be located at the Hilton Hotel.

Golan Heights Druze Begin General Strike
TA150740 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0725 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The Druze in the northern Golan Heights' villages began a general stike this morning, in protest against U.S. shelling of Druze positions in Lebanon. Druze on the Golan Heights also held solidarity meetings last night, identifying with their fellow Druze in Lebanon.

Uri Lubrani Interviewed on Lebanon Situation
TA101249 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Feb 84 p 20

[Interview with coordinator of activities in Lebanon Uri Lubrani by Shmu'el Segev; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Candidly speaking, in view of what appears to be the disintegration of the regime in Beirut, was the IDF's penetration into Lebanon 20 months ago justified?

Answer: (Smiling) I would rather not reply to that question. Move on.

Question: What do you think accelerated the latest developments in Lebanon?

Answer: I think it was caused by the accumulation of various factors, the main one being Syrian President al-Asad. The feeling had been mounting in the last few weeks in Damascus that if a stronger effort were not made to curb Al-Jumayyil's regime or at least to weaken it, the Lebanese president could muster great strength with the help of U.S. assistance and then it would have been more difficult to handle him. The direct excuse for the Syrian intervention at this point was the rumor which had been making the rounds in Beirut in the last 10 days that Al-Jumayyil was planning a military operation against the Druze and Shi'ite militia that have been harassing his government. There was also another rumor that the Lebanese Army was planning an operation in the resort town of 'Alayh to take it away from the Druze. It seems that these rumors were believed in Damascus and Al-Asad used his lackeys to foil this move. Syria's role in the latest developments stand out, particularly because of the preparations involved in such an operaton. Druze activities on the Ash-Shuf and Al-Matn mountains as well as Shi'ite operations in the southwestern quarters of Beirut require a massive military deployment and the concentration of large quantities of arms and ammunition. Only Syria could supply the Druze and the Shi'ites with the necessary equipment.

Question: The chief of staff was quoted as having said that there are no indications that Syria is directly involved in the fighting in Beirut. Does this not contradict your remarks?

Answer: I am not sure that the chief of staff's remarks were accurately quoted. I have no doubt whatsoever that the chief of staff did not mean to say that Syria does not have a hand in the latest activities in Beirut. Although Syria did not send its troops to fight, Damascus was the one that initiated and steered the latest move of the Druze and the Shi'ites in West Beirut. One of the most interesting phenomena in Lebanon since the Peace for Galilee operation is the great caution evinced by Syria in the use of its troops and other means of warfare. In spite of many temptations, Al-Asad has abstained from getting directly involved in the fighting and from using forces which would have required a deeper Syrian deployment in Lebanon.

It is my assessment that this cautiousness stems from the grim experience accumulated by the Syrians during their 8-year involvement in the sectarian wars in Lebanon. This involvement made Damascus sink into deep quicksand. It is almost certain that this involvement has also sabotaged the level of alertness of the Syrian Army and has disrupted its training program.

Another element has now been added: The Syrians were afraid that a direct involvement in the fighting might lead to a firm reaction, not on the part of the disintegrating Lebanese Army, but on that of the United States. However, to my regret, the events of last week showed that even when the Syrians intervene through their Druze and Shi'ite envoys their intervention is no less effective than a direct one.

Question: What will happen now? The U.S. Marines are leaving, the British and Italians are following suit and Lebanon appears to be on the verge of collapse.

Answer: It is hard to predict. It was common knowledge that the presence of the Multinational Force in Beirut carried very little military value. This force had a symbolic value and reflected the political commitment to maintain the present regime in Beirut. Ever since their arrival in Beirut, the U.S. Marines and the French paratroopers became a regular target for attacks, particularly by Druze and Shi'ites who strived to undermine Al-Jumayyil's regime and weaken his government.

Question: Were we surprised by the U.S. decision?

Answer: I do not think so, I had been waiting for such a decision for a long time. During an election year in the United States, the expenses involved in maintaining a Marine force in Beirut and exposing it to great and constant dangers would presumably have been too costly. Ever since the last attack on the Marines headquarters, Reagan had been expected to find an graceful way to get rid of this burden. We maintain regular contacts with the United States on the Lebanese issue, and I would not be wrong in stating that our positions are identical. The United States usually informs us in advance about such decisions and you may assume that this was also the case this time....

Question: But what will happen now?

Answer: The situation will change; we are in the midst of an ongoing process. We may know what the situation really is within a few days. Without underestimating Reagan's decision, the U.S. deterrent ability in the bay of Beirut may not be harmed as a result of the evacuation of the Marines. Perhaps, on the contrary, this may liberate the United States of its daily nightmare and the constant anxiety about further attacks on the Marines and decrease internal pressure in the United States. I believe that the Americans may now use more force, perhaps in a less restrained and controlled manner than up to now. By using this force, the United States would again be showing Reagan's commitment to the Al-Jumayyil regime, a commitment which the U.S. President has time and again declared publicly.

Question: Will this save Al-Jumayyil's regime? Do the new facts established in West Beirut not curtail the Lebanese president's authority?

Answer: I would not like to prophesize on Lebanese matters, especially on moves on which we have no control whatsoever. There is no doubt that the latest deterioration in Beirut does not bode well. Even in Israel there are people who think that Al-Jumayyil's end is around the corner. However, since the Americans are no less — and in some areas even more — familiar with the situation in Lebanon than we, I would not like to pass judgment while the process is still going on. If Reagan insists on fervently supporting Al-Jumayyil's regime, possibly he has good reasons to assess that its ability to survive is greater than what it would appear to be.

Question: Still, any regime in any country relies on its Army. However, the Lebanese Army has not yet passed any test and has not fulfilled the missions entrusted to it. How can Al-Jumayyil survive without firm military support?

Answer: It is not clear what remains of the Lebanese Army after the latest wave of desertions. However, according to fragmentary and unconfirmed reports, a sufficiently strong Christian military force remains in Lebanon which would enable Al-Jumayyil to entrench himself in East Beirut and continue the struggle. This is merely my personal assessment and not the consensus. The situation will become clearer in the next few days.

Question: How will Israel be affected by the decision to evacuate the Multinational Force and by the takeover of West Beirut by the Shi'ites? Is the agreement of 17 May dead?

Answer: No, it is not yet dead but the chances for its implementation seem very remote today.

Question: And what about our liaison office in Beirut?

Answer: Our representation in the Lebanese capital is still functioning, and I do not see any reason for evacuating it at this stage. Of course, we are closely following events.

Question: Do you see the danger that the evacuation of the Multinational Force might expose the IDF to further attacks in southern Lebanon? If so, what is the sense of our prolonged presence there? Why should we also not evacuate that area?

Answer: There is no doubt that the escalation in Beirut has and will continue to influence the south; it might lead to an increase of the hostile activities against us. Our departure from southern Lebanon should not be dictated by pressure from the Syrians or their allies in Lebanon, but only by Israel's security considerations. The Cabinet has announced that it intends to get out of Lebanon shortly. The question then is one of time and place. We are now conducting intensive activities aimed at reducing, or even terminating, our presence in Lebanon on the condition that the areas we leave behind no longer become a basis for launching hostile attacks against the Galilee settlements. These Israeli activities are conducted under rather difficult conditions and I am also not sure that they will succeed. We owe it to ourselves to make an effort that would ensure the well-being of our northern border and enable good neighborly relations with the Lebanese population close to the border.

Question: In view of what has happened in Beirut is there any chance that Israel will maintain any relations with the various sects in Lebanon?

Answer: We will make every possible effort to maintain relations with all those we are in contact with at present. We have been holding contacts with moderate Shi'ite elements who want to live calmly and peacefully. I do not see any reason why we should not maintain and develop such relations in the future. As for the Druze, there is no reason why we should not maintain our relations with them because they are beneficial to both sides. Concerning the Christians, contacts with them did never stop, and I do not see why they should be severed in the future.

Question: Do you foresee the danger of war with Syria as a result of the strengthening of its position in Lebanon and its achievements in the Lebanese crisis?

Answer: I do not believe and there are no indications that Syria is interested in a war with Israel in the foreseeable future. Nevertheless, we must recognize the fact that Syria is closely following events in Israel and is aware that in its present situation, Israel is looking for ways to reduce its involvement in Lebanon. Syria also knows that the United States is looking for ways to reduce its involvement in Beirut. Damascus perceives both these facts as a sign of weakness. Therefore, in such conditions, there is always the danger that a tyrannical and hostile regime — such as that of the Syrians — might rush to the conclusion that this is the right time to initiate a war against Israel. Needless to say, if that turns out to be the case, it would not be the first time that Damascus would be making a serious mistake in this sphere.

MA'ARIV Editorial on Agreement With Lebanon

TA121152 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 p 8

[Editorial: "The Agreement: Who Will Lose?"]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in a recorded interview yesterday that if Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil decided to cancel the 17 May agreement with Israel, this would first and foremost harm the Lebanese, since the agreement gives Israel far more obligations to fulfill than it does the Lebanese. This claim is correct, of course, but it is not precise.

It is correct that the agreement's main point is Israel's expression of willingness to withdraw from Lebanon in return for the Lebanese Government's willingness to agree to security arrangements in southern Lebanon and a more vague willingness for normalization in the relations between the two countries and an Israeli presence in Beirut. However, since the agreement was signed, much water has flowed under the bridges spanning the Al-Awwali River and all the other Lebanese rivers and if the IDF has not withdrawn from Lebanese territory so far, this is not because the agreement has not yet been ratified by the Lebanese Chamber of Duputies,and not even because Syria is refusing to withdraw its Army from Lebanon simultaneuously with the Israeli withdrawal.

On various occasions Mr Shamir has confirmed that we are not withdrawing from southern Lebanon because our primary concern is to safeguard our northern border. And because we now know there is no chance of the Lebanese Army being capable of taking its place along Israel's northern border in the near future and preventing attacks by hostile elements, we are acting unilaterally and trying to establish forces who will be loyal to the interests of southern Lebanon and help us in safeguarding the border. As soon as we feel that this goal has been attained, we will withdraw from Lebanon whether the agreement is ratified or cancelled.

The Americans, who know what our situation is, have arrived at a hasty conclusion: Because conditions have changed and Israel's withdrawal is no longer bound by the implementation of the agreement's clauses, the agreement is no longer important and its cancellation is not to be prevented if this will help Al-Jumayyil. It is here where their main error is to be seen. They do not understand that the Syrians and their allies — who are demanding the cancellation of the agreement — do not fear its operative clauses, but fear the fact that it is the second agreement between an Arab country and Israel.

This is the main reason why Israel cannot of its own free will concede and agree to the agreement's cancellation. If Israel were to acknowledge that the very fact of an Arab country's willingness to regard it as a neighbor and not as a permanent enemy is a crime — for which it may be destroyed as a country — then we would of our own accord give up our demands to arrive at peaceful arrangements with our neighbors.

If we are incapable of explaining this simple principle to U.S. diplomats, this should be regarded as a clear Israeli failure.

U.S. Will Not Give Direct Aid to Territories

TA121233 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 p 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that the United States does not intend to carry out its plan of beginning direct financing of development projects in the territories. This follows talks in which Israel opposed the U.S. plan.

Meanwhile the United States will increase its financial aid through U.S. relief agencies. The subject of direct financial aid will be raised with Israel on other occasions.

Our correspondent notes that in anticipation of direct U.S. aid, a number of economic associations have been set up in the West Bank in order to come up with various development projects. There is also renewed interest on the part of wealthy persons in establishing a bank which would be supported by the United States.

Our correspondent notes further that during the past year the United States has ceased to support persons identified with the PLO and transferred its aid to persons and institutions supporting Jordan or the joint Jordan-PLO Committee.

DIE WELT Quotes Source on Preemptive Strike Plan

TA150856 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Feb 84

[Report by Bonn correspondent 'Ofra Yeshu'a-Leit]

[Text] "In the event of an extreme rise in tension in the area, Israel will be forced to bomb from the air, in a preemptive strike, the Tabuk base in Saudi Arabia, which is 200 km south of Elat." This is how an Israeli officer explained the military options facing Israel in the event of a new war with its Arab neighbors. The Israeli evaluation is reported this morning by *DIE WELT*, which is published in Bonn.

According to *DIE WELT*, the IDF General Staff fears that West German-made weapons supplied to the Saudi Arabian Army will necessarily also bring German advisers and experts, since there is no chance of the Saudi Arabians being able to independently operate the sophisticated weapons they are trying to purchase from West Germany in the near future. In the event of tension, the paper quotes Israeli military sources as saying that the IDF would be forced to recommend to the Government of Israel an aerial bombardment, as a preemptive strike, of the Tabuk bases. Such an attack would necessarily result in fatalities among German citizens, too. "In the event of serious tension, we would have no other recourse," the Israeli officer told the West German paper.

DIE WELT recalls that similar remarks were made at the end of last month by Matityahu Shmuelevitz, the prime minister's office director general, who, in reply to a question, confirmed the possibility that Israel would use a "preemptive strike" against Saudi Arabia in the event of the risk of war breaking out.

Hungarian Delegation Visiting for Trade Contacts

TA122004 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] A four-member Hungarian delegation is currently in Israel. The contacts the delegation has been holding are of a commercial and industrial nature with business concerns in Israel. This has been learned by our correspondent Yisra'el Segal. This is the fourth visit by Hungarian officials recently. Israel has granted the Hungarians lines of credit worth tens of millions of dollars to permit them to purchase goods here which the Hungarian economy needs.

Briefs

Rise in Unemployment — There has been a steep rise in unemployment in Israel. From data released today by the Central Bureau of Statistics, it emerges that over the last 3 months of the year the rate of unemployment in Israel rose by 25 percent, and it has now reached 5 percent. Our correspondent points out that the appreciable increase in unemployment comes after a constant drop in the rate of unemployed from 1982. [Text] [Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Feb 84 TA]

Immigration Decreases — Some 1200 new immigrants arrived in Israel in January. This figure is lower by 11 percent than the number of immigrants last January, and by 13.5 percent than the figures for December. [Excerpt] [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 9 Feb 84 TA]

LIBYA

JANA Comments on Mubarak, Husayn U.S. Visit

LD142210 Tripoli JANA in English 1807 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 11, Feb 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Reagan administration undertook to guarantee the survival of King Husayn's regime as well as insure the continuation of the same line of policy based on peaceful coexistance with the Zionist enemy and serving the imperialist interests in the region.

The head of the U.S. Administration last night pledged his obligations towards the security and safety of the monarchist regime in Jordan and said this commitment will not change.

For his part, King Husayn said: "Our aims and objectives are identical," and stressed to the American President the Jordanian monarchy's commitment to continue the hostile anti-Syrian policy. King Husayn did not ask for a guarantee of U.S. protection of his regime in fear of the Zionist enemy, but of Syria as he told U.S. officials who praised his regime for siding with Iraq in its war against Iran and his acceptance of plans and initiatives formulated by the Reagan administration.

A senior American official said that King Husayn told Reagan of his satisfaction with the rapproachment between the Iraqi and Egyptian regimes, and with the recent U.S. initiatives on Iraq which aim to strengthen Iraq's shaky position in the war against the Islamic revolution in Iran in return for Iraq's vassalage to U.S. policy in the area.

King Husayn of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt joined in asking the U.S. Administration for more military and economic aid to rescue the deteriorating situation in both countries, and also joined their voices to ask for U.S. protection against the wrath of their people for their capitulationist policies in Egypt and Jordan.

The Reagan administration considers the Jordanian king and the Egyptian president stooges who respond to U.S. policies and objectives in the region, and that the U.S. will be able to use both of them in the service of its hostile aims and plans in order to achieve the results desired in the strategic cooperation agreement between the U.S. and the Zionist enemy. This reactionary axis will be linked to the U.S. wagon as a partner in carrying out Reagan's capitulatory plan, which was endorsed by Yasir 'Arafat enthusiastically so as to reach his dream of building his state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mubarak's and King Husayn's visit to Washington and their reception by Reagan in another conspiracy against the Arab nation cannot be viewed except from one angle; namely, a visit devoted to undermine the Arab nation and serve the U.S.-Zionist plan against the interests and objectives of this nation.

Jabir Meets With Ethiopia's Mengistu in Moscow

LD142123 Tripoli JANA in English 1900 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow, Jumama al Ulla 11, Feb 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces met here tonight with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. They discussed the cooperative relations between both friendly countries and the means of bolstering them.

The meeting was also attended by the Ethiopian foreign minister and the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Moscow.

General People's Congress Continues Sessions

Moroccan Minister Addresses Session

LD142259 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 11, Feb. 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mohammad Arsalane, Moroccan minister of state and secretary-general of the Democratic National Party, has addressed the morning session of the General People's Congress (GPC).

He expressed deep satisfaction for attending the GPC meeting and highly praised the warm reception and hospitality which he enjoyed during his stay in the Jamahiriyah. He said: "The Libyan people live in progress and prosperity under the leadership of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and have made substantial development in social, economic and cultural fields'. In his address, he wished the Libyan people further prosperity, progress and happiness and for other Arab countries to follow suit in this course of certain progress.

Arsalane pointed out that the Arab nation, from the ocean to the Gulf, is passing through the most critical phase of its life, characterized by disunity and disintegration, where the future of the coming generations is at stake. He said that enemies continue to great blows, one after the other, to the Arab nation and create marginal differences, with which we have been unnecessarily busy. He added that the Arab nation is facing the real danger of the influence of Western culture in our life and the disillusionment of our youth, who are of vital importance to the future of the nation. He also praised the Libyan people's awareness of this danger and their ceaseless efforts to protect the youth from this emminent danger. He added: "All Arab countries should follow the footsteps of the Jamahiriyah in this respect".

Arsalane warned that the Arab nation has become the object of desire of the greedy, the target of the Zionist enemy and the aim of the invading, racist imperialists. He confirmed the need to face up to all the challenges and confrontations with faith and determination till victory is achieved over all the forces of evil and oppression. He added that victory will not be attained unless the Arab nation is united and all their differences are resolved. They should work towards joining forces till victory is achieved over the enemy's oppressive forces.

The secretary general of the National Democratic Party in brotherly Morocco indicated that the unity of the Arab Maghreb countries is the foundation stone of total Arab unity. He added that the Jamahiriyah and Moroccan Kingdom are the wings of the Arab Maghreb, and the great Arab Maghreb cannot take off without its wings. This fact in itself imposes upon the Maghreb to unite and join efforts with all honesty and loyalty in order to become the drive force for the rest of the Arab nation.

The Moroccan minister, in his speech to the General People's Congress, referred to the brotherly relations between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco, especially after the historic meeting last summer between the leader of the revolution and King Hassan II. He added that this meeting established the basis for developing relations between the brotherly states in various fields. Both countries express their strong willingness and determination to go a step forward toward achieving the total unity of the Arab Maghreb and the entire Arab nation. The Moroccan minister noted the meeting of the General People's Committee and Moroccan cabinet last January in Rabat, and talked about the positive outcome of the meeting which, he added, was an indication that both countries were willing to work toward unity as drawn up by the leader and King Hassan II.

He ended his speech by wishing success to the congress in its working session, which will be on a level with the Libyan Arab people's ambitions and at a level with the hopes of our Arab nation and its future expectations for a radiant and prosperous tomorrow with the flags of freedom, democracy, dignity and honour flying above.

Tunisian Official Speaks

LD150035 Tripoli JANA in English 1743 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 11, Feb 14, JAMAHIRIAH NEWS AGENCY — Mohammed Treiki, director of the research centre at the Tunisian Dostour Party, delivered a speech at the General People's Congress morning session in which he conveyed the greetings of President Habib Bourguiba and of the Tunisian people to the revolution's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the Libyan people.

He said: "I am very happy to be here among you and to closely watch the work of the General People's Congress, which will in due course enable me to convey the real picture to the Tunisian people about the course which the Libyans have chosen to manage their own affairs, and consequently build their bright future in this part of the Arab world.

He highly admired the dynamic and serious work of the secretaries of the Basic People's Congress at this congress and the honest way by which they passed on the resolutions and recommendations of the people of the basic congress to this foreign and domestic affairs and building socialism [sentence as received]. He added that the resolutions of the People's Congresses reflect the will of the Libyan people as well as their responsibilities and determination. He added that the Libyan and Tunisian Arab people are working together towards realizing their common aims for a better future and a prosperous life.

He concluded in his speech — which he delivered at the morning session of the General People's Congress — that if Basic People's Congresses all put on their agenda the subject of moving towards attaining unity of the Arab Maghreb, then confidence will increase and faith in the future will be high. He added that this sensitive issue makes us all feel proud of belonging to this honest Arab land and moves in us all a feeling of heavy responsibility and its greatness.

This responsibility we have inherited from our courageous fathers and forefathers who built this land with their honest Arab spirit and ensured the development of the Islamic civilisation. They stood century after century in defence of the Arab character of this land against all invaders. They held back the crusaders invasions and the attacks of European colonialists in all its forms. For this reason, this land remained Arab, steadfast in its Arab nature.

He added: "The Arab Maghreb, which stood a great historic stand, is called upon at this critical historic moment of the Arab nation to pass on its message and be aware of its responsibility. The courageous Arabs bear the same responsibilities now as did their forefathers of sacred duties in order that this Arab land continues passing on its historic message.

He explained that the current battles are very different from the previous historic battles. But the insistance of the Arabs to achieve unity could not be stopped by the obstacles created throughout centuries of dispersion caused by the notorious colonialism.

The director of studies in the Tunisian Socialist Dosturian Party, at the end of his speech, confirmed that the building of the Arab Maghreb is the beginning of total Arab unity, and that the unity of the Arab Maghreb is the foundation stone on the way for the Arabs to regain their glory, and to become a civilisational power, which amazes the world and ensures the existance of the Arab nation.

Further on People's Congress

LD121852 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Al Ulla 9, February 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The gathering of people's committees and congresses and professional associations, syndicates and unions — the General People's Congress (GPC) — resumed its proceedings yesterday at 4:30 pm to continue the formulation of resolutions of the Basic People's Congresses (BCP's).

Speaking at the outset of the evening session, the General People's Committee secretary of the treasury reviewed the economic conditions through which the world is passing and their effects on the Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the Jamahiriyah, like other member-countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has witnessed since the beginning of the financial year of 1983, directly following the issuing of the budgets' [word indistinct] two important developments in the oil sector and, (?concurrently) on all levels and general economic indicators including direct financial spending [sentence as received].

He said: "We have come a long way in diversifying the sources of income and generating other sources of domestic income that will gradually replace oil income, which is facing external and international influences." He also affirmed the necessity of working to avoid such influences. He also affirmed the necessity of working to avoid such influences "by drawing a long-term plan to enable us to either do away with these influences or draw them down to a minimum."

The treasury secretary stressed the necessity of finding the only alternative — controlling consumption, producing maximum output and consuming the least possible, something which was recognized by the People's Congresses last year.

Announcing the resolutions of the BPC's regarding studying proposed financial measures to deal with the world economic crisis, the assistant secretary of the GPC said: 124 BPC's approved of the memorandum (66.86 percent of all congresses); 59 BPC's approved the memorandum with notes (31.55 percent); one BPC did not take any decision regarding the memorandum (0.53 percent); and one BPC's recommendations were not obtained (0.53 percent).

On the special proposal for merging municipalities, the GPC's assistant secretary said: 81 GPC's approved the proposal without notes (43.33 percent of [words indistinct]), while 58 BPC's approved the proposal with comments (31.2 percent). 43 BPC's rejected the memorandum (23 percent); 2 BPC's expressed reservations regarding the merger of municipalities (1.06 percent); 2 BCP's had no express recommendations (1.06 percent); and one BPC expressed no decision because of the nonarrival of the memorandum (0.53 percent). Regarding the paragraph related to cutting manpower at brotherhood and People's Bureaus: 100 BPC's approved the memorandum (83.9 percent of all BPC's).

The GPC also listened to the remarks and resolutions of the BPC's regarding this item in Al-Qar'ah, Aouzou, An-Niqat and central Darnah.

The GPC further listened to remarks and clarifications on this item from the People's Committee secretaries of the municipalities of An-Niqat, Al-Fatih, Zawiyah and Umm Al-Aranib, and the People's Committee treasury secretaries at Al-Fatih and Darnah, and the secretary of the vocational congress of banking.

After a short break, the GPC resumed its evening session yesterday by listening to the resolutions and remarks of other BPC's regarding the special paragraph of merging municipalities and proposed financial measures.

The GPC later moved to the fourth paragraph on the 93-94 (coinciding with 1984) transformation budget. The GPC's assistant secretary reviewed the BPC's decisions in this respect, indicating that: 97 BPC's approved the budget (51.88 percent of all BPC's), with 48 BPC's approving the budget in accordance with the municipalities suggestion (25.68 percent). 4 BPC's called on raising the budget from the projects' reserve (3.12 percent); 36 BPC's calling for raising the 1984 transformation budget (19.26 percent); and 2 BPC's made no recommendations (8 percent).

Regarding the administrative budget, 118 BPC's (63.11 percent of all BPC's) approved it; 46 BPC's approved it with remarks (24.6 percent); and 3 BPC's approved the budget with higher spending (10.69 percent).

The BPC's had listened to the remarks and resolutions of BPC's regarding the transformation and administrative budget during its evening session. At 8:10 pm, the session was adjourned to reconvene this morning at 9:00 am.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Sends Congratulations to Chernenko

LD150044 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The head of state addressed the following congratulatory message to His Excellency Chairman Konstantin Chernenko, the general secretary of the CPSU:

Your assumption of the position of the CPSU general secretary is a happy opportunity to send you, on behalf of the Mauritanian people and their Military Committee for National Salvation, their government and on my own behalf, our congratulations and sincere wishes for progress and prosperity for yourself and for the fraternal Soviet people.

Your selection clearly shows the complete trust you enjoy from the Soviet people. I am certain that, considering the wisdom you enjoy, you will not spare any effort to support and safeguard world peace. I am certain that development will characterize cooperation between our two countries in the interest of the Soviet and Mauritanian people.

With my most profound respects,
[Signed] Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala

Senegal's President Diouf Visits for Talks

AB131838 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Nouakchott this morning accorded a warm and colorful reception to Senegal President Abdou Diouf.

The Senegalese head of state arrived at 1000 and was welcomed at the airport by Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, who was accompanied by Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and minister of defense, members of the CMSN and the government, the governor of the district of Nouakchott, members of the diplomatic corps and a large number of eminent personalities. Members of the Senegalese community were also present at the airport.

President Abdou Diouf, who is on a one day friendly working visit to our country, is accompanied by Interior Minister Ibrahima Wone and Rural Development Minister Bator Diop.

In the airport VIP lounge, the Senegalese head of state expressed his feelings on arriving in Mauritania:

[Begin Diouf recording] I am very happy to be in Mauritania today. To any Senegalese, Mauritania is a second motherland — I can say simply a motherland. I am particularly happy to be with my brother and friend, President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, for whom I have the highest esteem and with whom I maintain an excellent personal relationship befitting the relations of confidence, friendship and warm cooperation that exist between the Republic of Senegal and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

My visit will be very short, but I think that it will be useful because in this world in crisis, in this troubled Africa, and especially in this subregion endemically a victim of drought, it is good that the heads of state of Mauritania and Senegal should meet often to discuss problems facing their peoples, their subregion, their region, their continent and the world as a whole.

It is needless, therefore, to tell you that with President Ould Haydala, we will have a two-part agenda. First of all, we will discuss problems of our bilateral cooperation, which is in good shape. Therefore, we will not dwell on it too much. We will then discuss international issues and here too, we will divide them into two parts: first of all the truly African problems and then the other international problems. I think the outcome of the discussions will be very positive. [end recording]

President Abdou Diouf will leave Nouakchott this afternoon.

Statement Issued on Talks

LD140035 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The Senegalese president, Abdou Diouf, left the capital this evening at the end of his friendly working visit to our country which lasted several hours, in response to an invitation by Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, and president.

During his visit to Nouakchott, President Diouf held private meetings with Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. Moreover, a working session was held between the Mauritanian delegation led by Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and the Senegalese delegation led by the minister of the interior, Ibrahima Wone.

At the end of this visit a joint statement was issued. Here is a translation:

At the invitation of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, and head of state, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal, paid a friendly working visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania on 13 February 1984. His Excellency Abdou Diouf was accompanied by an important delegation which included the minister of the interior, Ibrahima Wone, and the minister of rural development, Bator Diop. The Mauritanian delegation was comprised of several prominent figures, including Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Mohamed Ould Amar, minister of rural development; and N'gam Lirwane, deputy minister of the interior.

The two heads of state conducted private talks, during which they reviewed bilateral relations. They also exchanged views on the economic and political situation in Africa and the Middle East, and the rest of the world. In addition to the talks between the two heads of state, the Mauritanian and the Senegalese delegations held a working session during which they discussed cooperation between the two countries, particularly with regard to rural development.

With regard to bilateral relations, the two sides expressed [words indistinct] the two states' satisfaction with their present level. They affirmed their determination to consolidate further the existing bonds of friendship, fraternity, and cooperation between the two countries.

The two heads of state expressed their concern over [words indistinct] and the continuous drought in the region. In this regard, they agreed to combine their efforts to combat this disaster and coordinate their activities whether [words indistinct] whether regional or semi-regional or international.

On the other hand, they affirmed their adherence to the aims of the semi-regional and regional organizations, such as the organization for the utilization of the Senegal river and the economic community for West Africa, the joint international committee to combat drought in the Sahel and the economic community of the states of West Africa.

The international economic crisis also drew the attention of the heads of state who showed special interest in the resumption of the general negotations within the framework of the United Nations and (?the renewal of the Lome treaty) for the establishment of a new, more just, and more equitable international economic order.

With regard to the political situation in Africa, the two heads of state renewed their countries' adherence to the ideals and principles of the Organization of African Unity and to the undertaking for the development of relations of friendship, cooperation, and goodneighborliness among the states which cherish peace and justice.

When reviewing the question of Western Sahara, the two heads of state affirmed anew their support for the resolution adopted at the 19th OAU summit in this respect.

As to the present situation in Chad, the two heads of state expressed their regret at the aggravation of this fraternal dispute. They expressed their committment to working within the framework of the OAU for national reconciliation and the preservation of the national unity of this country without any foreign interference.

With regard to the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state underlined their adherence to respecting the enforcement of the UN resolutions, particularly Resolution No 435 issued by the Security Council, on Namibia. They affirmed anew their total and unconditional support for SWAPO, the sole legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people.

On the other hand, the two heads of state condemned the inhuman apartheid policy and affirmed their unshakable support for the struggling people of South Africa and for the confrontation states' victims of the aggressions of the racist regime in South Africa.

As to the situation in the Middle East, the two heads of state expressed their concern over the tragic situation in this part of the world. They are convinced that any final solution to this question must come through the restoration of the usurped legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the retrieval of the occupied Arab territories. The two heads of state renewed their permanent support for the struggle of the Palestinian people against Zionism, under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization.

With regard to Lebanon, the two heads of state expressed their great concern over the continuing deterioration of the situation and expressed their hope that this country will restore its peace under conditions of unity and territorial sovereignty.

On the other hand, they renewed their adherence to the basic principles of the charters of the United Nations, the OAU, and the ICO, as well as to the principles of the movement of nonaligned states.

They expressed their satisfaction with the cordial, fraternal atmosphere which prevailed during their talks, as well as with their fruitful results. They decided to consolidate the contacts and exchanges on all levels with a view to reaching a coordinated development of relations of fraternal cooperation, which remain in existence between the two countries.

President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala expressed his sincere satisfaction with the visit of President Abdou Diouf to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and saluted his wisdom and farsightedness in running the affairs of the state. President Abdou Diouf expressed his sincere gratitude, on behalf of the accompanying delegation and on his own behalf, to Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, for the warm hospitality and reception afforded them during this visit. President Abdou Diouf invited Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala to pay an official visit to Senegal. President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala accepted this invitation, the date of which will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Nouakchott, 13 February 1984
[Signed] For the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, His Excellency Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, Head of State
For the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic

Agreement Signed With Libya on Air Transport

AB142210 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The delegation from the Libyan civil aviation organization this morning left Nouakchott after a working visit of a few days.

During its visit to Mauritania, the Libyan delegation examined with the delegation of the Mauritanian air support unit the possibilities for signing an agreement on air transport. Earlier this morning, the two delegations signed a draft agreement in this connection which will soon come into effect, following an exchange of documents through diplomatic channels.

The draft was signed on the Mauritanian side by Kebedu Salami, director of civil aviation, and on the Libyan side by 'Abd Jakud, general director of Libyan civil aviation.

SUDAN

French Company Appeals for Release of Hostages

NC131333 Paris AFP in English 1253 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Paris, Feb 13 (AFP) — A woman eight-months-pregnant and her son of 18 months are among six people captured by guerrillas in southern Sudan last week, the French Compagnie Des Grands Travaux de Marseille (CGTM) said here today.

The company and the families of the hostages made an urgent appeal for the release of Ursula Morson, a West German citizen, and her son "as soon as possible," and for the lives of the others to be spared. The delivery of Mrs Morson's child would require an operation, the company said.

The other hostages are pilot Gween Morson of Kenya, French technicians Michel Dupire and Yves Parisse, and British technician Ian Bain. They were captured last Friday when guerrillas apparently belonging to the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, or Anyanya II, attacked and briefly occupied a CGTM camp on the Jonglei Canal, which the company is helping to build. In fighting between the rebels and Sudanese troops, another CGTM pilot, Australian Peter Clarke, was killed.

There has been no work on the canal since November 15, when 11 foreign workers, including seven French people, were captured by guerrillas and held for a few days. News of that incident was announced by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, then on a visit to Paris, who accused Libya and Ethiopia of being behind the "Sudanese People's Liberation Army."

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Urges Teachers To End Strike

LD141555 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning held talks with [Prime Minister] Mohamed Mzali.

On the occasion of the strike held this morning in the primary schools, the great combatant noted when he received [National Education Minister] Mohamed Fredj Chedli that the government is not prepared to give in to blackmail and threats of whatever kind. He called on the education staff to let common sense prevail, and to let the interest of the homeland prevail above

all else — and for them to carry out their mission in the best manner.

He once again expressed his confidence in the sincere teaching staff.

Education Minister Issues Appeal

LD141556 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Mohamed Fredj Chedli, the minister of national education, affirmed in a television interview yesterday that the various demands put forward by the National Union of Elementary Education Workers have all been resolved and implemented. The minister has thus eliminated all the excuses used to declare a strike in elementary schools.

The minister enumerated the achievements made to the advantage of the elementary teaching staff, and pointed out that whatever the reasons and conditions, our children should not be used as hostages and as a means to pressure the ministry. He urged the men of education to resort to their conscience and to show care for the future of our sons, protecting them from everything that could harm them and the homeland, and to set examples in giving and in safeguarding the interests of the students and the sublime interests of the homeland.

CHAD

'Fiscal Measures' To Be Taken for 'Reconstruction'

AB142110 Paris AFP in French 1843 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 14 Feb (AFP) — The Chadian Government has decided to take exceptional fiscal measures that will affect the entire population and all sectors of the country's economy called upon to participate in the "national reconstruction effort," it was officially learned on Tuesday in Ndjamena.

According to the presidential decree signed on Monday, all Chadian wage earners of both the public and private sectors shall pay in one month's net take-home salary while non-salary earners shall make a contribution of 1,000 CFA francs per person.

As for industrial companies, the bigger ones are required to pay 2 million CFA francs (40,000 French francs) each; the medium-sized companies 1 million CFA francs; and small enterprises 300,000 CFA francs.

In regard to commerical interests, contributions will vary from 30,000 CFA francs to 6,500,000 CFA francs (600 to 10,000 French francs) with professionals and artisans paying between 50,000 to 150,000 CFA francs.

Only the incurably sick and invalid persons, mothers, old people, and primary and secondary school students will be exempted from this contribution which, it was pointed out, will be used "on the order of the head of state, for national reconstruction."

The minimum salary in Chad is 10,000 CFA francs (200 French francs).

FANT Officer at Kalait on Military Situation

AB141750 Paris AFP in French 0802 GMT 13 Feb 84

[From AFP special correspondent Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Kalait (Northern Chad), 13 Feb (AFP) — Lost in the desert around the 16th parallel, the Kalait base is the Chadian National Armed Forces' (FANT) closest base to Faya-Largeau, which is being held by Goukouni Oueddei's "allied" forces. As a strategic position, Kalait holds the key to both Biltine and Abeche, which are further south.

"As for the enemy, he avoids us because he is afraid," asserts Khamis Djimi, the second in command of the Kalait base. According to him, "The Libyans and Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] forces suffered heavy losses" during the Monou encounters (northeast Chad) in January.

But the apparent calm is disturbed by French planes — Jaguar and Mirage — that frequently fly over the zone and patrol along the 16th parallel, the new "line of attack" fixed for the "Manta" detachment since the shooting down of the Jaguar aircraft in the west of the country in January.

"For the moment, the Libyans and the Goukouni men are calm, but since they are reinforcing themselves at Faya, we must be ready for new encounters," Commander Khamis says.

There are only a few concrete buildings, and the traditional tents made of plaited mats and the military tents abound. Many of the fighters, mostly young people, sleep outdoors with their bed covers rolled around them. Some of them are only 13, but they are all well armed and the famous Russian "Kalashnikov "is giving way to the "FAL" (Belgian) or to the "SIG" (Swiss).

"Our major problem is that of logistics," Khamis Djimis says, asserting that "after the battle of Monou, we ran short of gas," thus limiting patrols that are necessary for the surveillance of the zone.

"Fortunately enough," adds another fighter, "since Monou, the situation has been calm."

"The FANT have a large quantity of heavy weapons, but they are disparate. We have taken a lot of materials from the enemy at Monou," the major in charge of vehicles asserts, pointing to several vehicles equipped with Katyushas, "Stalin's organs," bi-tube cannons, or better yet, heavy machine guns.

"We captured several prisoners during the encounters," an officer points out, and shows us some 20 soldiers busy with household chores.

Life in Kalait is organized around a dozen wells. The soldiers live far from the civilian population, which is principally made up of refugees from Faya-Largeau or from Fada (in northeast Chad). "They come in every day on foot or on the backs of camels," the prefect adds.

These refugees often live in a state of lamentable destitution. "Feeding some 1,000 people in this region is no small thing," he stresses. "In order to survive, we asked for emergency aid from Ndjamena, but this has not yet arrived," the prefect says.

As for the French soldiers, the FANT claims that apart from the flights, they don't show up in Kalait; however, a [words indistinct] sometimes lands and loads [words indistinct] heads toward Biltine. "At any rate, we have never seen a French patrol group that high in the air," asserts a Chadian soldier. The nearest French military base is at Rada, an important village, situated about 100 km further south.

West African Intergovernmental Body Meeting Ends

AB140649 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The seventh meeting of leaders of Intergovernmental Organizations of West Africa has just ended in Conakry with the adoption of four resolutions on the charter of cooperation, on economic integration, the support for the Multinational Programming and Operation Center [MULPOC], and on labor program. Here is the final communique issued at the end of the deliberations, and presented by Moussa Ngom, secretary general of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS]:

[Begin Ngom recording] Final communique: The conference of leaders of the Intergovernmental Organizations of West Africa was held on 11 and 12 February 1984 in Conakry, People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. Participating in this meeting are leaders of the following intergovernmental organizations:

Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar, the Niger Basin Authority, the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority, West African Rice Development Association, Central Bank of West African States, West African Development Bank, the African Regional Center for Technical Conception and Manufacture, Permanent Interstate Committee on Drought in the Sahel, African Commission on Civil Aviation, Interstate Committee for Hydraulic Studies, ECOWAS, Cattle and Meat Economic Community, African Peanut Council [CAA], African and Mauritian Common Organization [OCAM], the River Gambia Basin Development Organization, Organization for Coordination and Cooperation in the Control of Major Endemic Diseases, ECOWAS Fund, OCAM Fund, African Solidarity Fund, the Mano River Union, Pan-African Telecommunications Union, and West African Clearing House.

After studying the recommendations made by the seventh meeting of experts of the intergovernmental organizations, the leaders adopted four resolutions: Resolution on cooperation agreement; the resolution on the study made by the CAA on the economic integration of West Africa; the resolution concerning the assistance of the CAA to the MULPOC of Niamey; and the resolution on the mode of implementing the cooperation program between intergovernmental organizations. Participants at the meeting sent their sincere thanks and deep gratitude to President Ahmed Sekou Toure, supreme servant of the people, to the party-state, and to the government and people of Guinea for agreeing to host the meeting.

Issued in Conakry on 12 February 1984 by the conference [end recording]

BENIN

Kerekou Sends Chernenko Congratulatory Message

AB132200 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Konstantin Chernenko was elected general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union this morning. Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, who succeeds Yuriy Andropov [words indistinct], was unanimously elected during a plenary and extraordinary session of the Central Committee of the CPSU, and President Kerekou did not waste time. He sent a congratulatory message today to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko. Guy Firmin has the contents of this message:

[Begin recording] It is with great satisfaction that we have just learned of your brilliant election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU.

On behalf of the entire people of Benin, of their avant-garde party — the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRPB] — of their National Executive Council, and on our own behalf, we address to you our very enthusiastic, warm, and militant congratulations.

We assure you of the total readiness of our avant-garde party, the PRPB, to strive for the strengthening and upward development of the relations of friendship, solidarity, and active cooperation existing between our two peoples, our two parties, and our two states, as well as for the establishment of long-lasting peace in Africa and in the world. We are persuaded that the oppressed and exploited people of the whole world, fighting against racism, apartheid, and imperialism, will find in you, as in your illustrious predecessor, a continuation of the struggle led by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, an ardent defender of their noble and just cause for the triumph of peace and the edification of socialism.

While reiterating our sincere congratulations, accept, Mr General Secretary, the expression of our highest and militant regards.

Signed,

Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the PRPB, president of the Republic, head of state, president of the National Executive Council [end recording]

President Kerekou Receives GUNT Delegation 14 Feb

AB142100 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Our great comrade in struggle, President Mathieu Kerekou, this morning received in audience a delegation of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] led by Brother (Boukar Abdoulaye Manabaye). Answering questions by our reporter Sylvestre Zoumahou following the audience, the leader of the delegation said he went to deliver to our great comrade in struggle, President Kerekou, a message from GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei.

[Zoumahou] May we know the purpose of the talks you have just held with the president of the Republic, President Kerekou?

[(Manabaye)] The purpose of our visit to Cotonou is to deliver a message from President Goukouni Oueddei to Comrade Kerekou. It is a message that deals with the abortive conference for national reconciliation in Chad, and we also discussed the problem of the situation prevailing in the field.

[Zoumahou] Following the failure of the roundtable conference of Addis Ababa, which was to bring together the various Chadian factions, does the GUNT have any alternative solution to suggest in order to rescue the Chadian tragedy from its present impasse?

[(Manabaye)] Well, we must first ask why that conference failed, because the Chadian people had placed great hope in that conference. The GUNT also hoped that a negotiated and final solution to the Chadian crisis would emerge from the conference. All the hopes were there, but that meeting failed. We are still wondering why, and when we find out, well, we will see what position the GUNT will adopt in the future. That notwithstanding, before leaving Addis Ababa we made it clear to the current OAU chairman that he must make further efforts to convene the conference and with the same agenda. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Libya's Major Jallud To Arrive in Lagos 14 Feb

AB141410 Paris AFP in French 1142 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, 14 Feb (AFP) — The Libyan second in command, Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, will on Tuesday afternoon arrive in Lagos, where he will meet with Nigerian Head of State General Muhammadu Buhari.

Lagos, where a military regime seized power on 31 December, has become a place of convergence for several African diplomatic missions coming to contact the new authorities. On Monday, Liberian Foreign Minister Ernest Eastman delivered a message from President Samuel Doe to Gen Buhari. The same day, Beninese Minister Tiamiou Adjibade was received by the Nigerian head of state. They discussed trade on the border between the two countries and their joint cooperation projects, official sources indicated.

Major Jallud's visit will again enable the discussion of the Chadian issue at a time the new Nigerian authorities are hoping for a new conference between the Chadian factions. "The Chadian situation is now comparable to that of Lebanon. It is not enough to support a faction; it is also necessary to reach an agreement between them," an official of the regime declared in private on Tuesday morning.

Although the new Nigerian government has not yet made any definite statement on its foreign policy — Africa remaining its priority, according to Gen Buhari — observers have noticed a hardening of the Nigerian position on certain aspects.

It is observed in Lagos that the strengthening of security measures on the borders has already resulted in very considerable decrease of smuggling and in serious supply problems for Nigeria's neighbors. Nigeria no longer wants to "subsidize" the neighboring countries by enabling them to obtain gasoline at a cheap price or food meant for Nigerians — products that have become cheap abroad thanks to the speculation on the naira, the national currency.

"We are not against legitimate trade but we want to put an end to illicit traffic," Gen Buhari recently declared to the new Niger ambassador to Lagos. According to professional circles in the Nigerian capital, the neighboring countries profited every day from the equivalent of 50,000 barrels of oil, thus creating a daily loss of $1 million to Nigeria.

Maj Jallud will not meet with Nigerian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Gambari, who on Monday left for Moscow in the company of Gen Tunde Idiagbon — the regime's second in command — to attend the funeral of Yuriy Andropov.

Buhari Receives Liberian Foreign Minister Eastman

AB141255 Lagos NAN in English 1225 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb. 14 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, said yesterday in Lagos that the achievement of rapid results in the rehabilitation of the country's economy was the Federal Military Government's priority. Maj Gen Buhari said this when the visiting Liberian Foreign Minister, Mr. Ernest Eastman, called (?on him) at Dodan Barracks.

The head of state said that the military administration would consider other issues only after tackling the economic problems facing the country.

Maj Gen Buhari told the minister that there had been tremendous goodwill internally and externally for the administration and stated that Nigeria would continue to maintain and strengthen its relationship with other African countries. He said that fraternal cooperation existed between Nigeria and Liberia and expressed the hope that it would be improved.

The foreign minister was in the country to deliver a message from the Liberian leader, Commanding General Samuel Doe.

Benin's Adjibade Brings Buhari Message From Kerekou

AB132155 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Nigeria's economic programs and foreign investments are being reviewed by the Federal Military Government to bring them in line with the country's economic realities. This was stated at Dodan Barracks today by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while receiving a personal message from President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin Republic.

He said that Nigeria valued its relationship with its neighbors not only because of their cultural and geographical values but also for their economic significance to the countries involved. Major General Buhari ensured the Benin Republic delegation that the economic relations between the two countries would be reviewed and strengthened for the mutual benefit of the two countries. He said that Nigeria and Benin Republic shared identical views on African issues, including the problems of Namibia, Western Sahara, and Chad.

In the message delivered by the foreign minister of Benin Republic, Mr Tiamiou Adjibade, President Kerekou stressed the will-

ingness of his country to cooperate with Nigeria in the search for security and stability. President Kerekou said that Nigeria was in a special position, because of her human and mineral resources, to exert enormous influence for the benefit of the rest of Africa. He said that successive leaders of the two countries have recognized the need for cooperation between them by taking into account the common interests of the two countries. President Kerekou requested the Federal Military Government to look into the sugar and cement projects in Benin Republic jointly financed by the two countries in order to make them viable. He also asked the government to encourage the promotion of trade, which has existed for a long time.

President Kerekou invited General Buhari to visit Benin Republic as soon as possible and renewed his determination to work hand in hand with the new administration in Nigeria.

Envoy at UN Urges Cooperation of African States

AB141150 Lagos NAN in English 1128 GMT 14 Feb 84

[By Lawrence Okwu]

[Text] New York, Feb. 14 (NAN) — Nigeria's permanent representative at the UN, retired Maj Gen Joseph Garba, has said that Nigeria will work with African member-states of the organisation to revive the dynamic approach to African issues at the world body. He told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in New York yesterday that the time had come for a concerted African approach to a number of issues affecting the continent.

Commenting on the various suggestions in New York by some African ambassadors that his presence at the UN could revive Nigeria's former leadership role at the world body, Gen Garba said "a lot of people think we are back to 1975", a reference to the regime of the late Gen Murtala Muhammed. "This is not so," he added. "Circumstances have changed and so we cannot be expected to play the role we played in 1975 in the same way and at the same pace. Certainly the philosophy of 1975 still permeates the system as Maj Gen Buhari has said and we will do our best under the present circumstances, the permanent representative said. He further said that he had not come to the UN with a magic wand but that he would do his best like he had always done and tailor his activities to the changed circumstances at the world body.

Maj Gen Garba presented his credentials to the secretary general of the UN last week and reassured him of Nigeria's readiness to work toward the achievement of the aims and objectives of the organisation.

Defense Minister Told of Poor Condition of Fleet

AB141200 Lagos NAN in English 0944 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb. 13 (NAN) — The minister of defence, Maj Gen Domkat Bali, was told in Lagos today that the bad operational condition of the fleet of the Western Naval Command was due to the nonavailability of water supply to naval vessels at the naval base.

The command's flag officer, Captain Ebitu Ukiwe, told the minister who visited the headquarters of the command at the *NNS Olokun* that the borehole at the base had broken down. Capt Ukiwe said that electric plants and converters for shore supply of power to the ships in harbour had also broken down and that power supply to the base was inadequate. He appealed to the minister to assist the command in acquiring land to decongest the base.

The minister also visited Bonny Camp, Dodan Barracks, the signal training school, the naval base at Apapa, and the Navy town at Ojo, all in Lagos. The tour continues tomorrow.

Rice Shipment Destined for Chad Released

AB140645 Lagos NAN in English 1146 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Maiduguri, Feb. 13 (NAN) — The 17 trucks with 11,400 bags of rice, which were detained at the Nigerian border with Chad, were released at the week-end following a directive by the military governor of Borno, Maj. Gen. Abubakar Waziri.

According to the assistant controller, Department of Customs and Excise, Maiduguri, Alhaji Umar Ajao, the trucks were on their way to Chad from Lagos with the consignment of relief materials. He said that representatives of the World Food Programme took delivery of the rice, which was said to have been imported from the U.S. by them.

College Closed Following Religious Disturbances

AB142212 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] More than 1,000 students of the Women's Teachers College, Maiduguri, have been sent home and the school closed down indefinitely following religious disturbances in the institution. The Borno state commissioner of education, Alhaji Abubakar Ghide, said the school was closed down because of fear that the disturbances might escalate. He said that an internal inquiry had been set up to determine whether there was any external influence.

Religious Tolerance Called for

AB150650 Lagos NAN in English 1300 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Maiduguri, Feb 14 (NAN) — The Borno state commissioner of police, Alhaji Adamu Abubakar, yesterday in Maiduguri called for religious tolerance among the people of the state. Answering a reporter's question at a news conference in respect of recent religious disturbances in post-primary institutions in the state, the commissioner said that there was need for teachers to inculcate religious tolerance in their students and for students to show respect [words indistinct].

Alhaji Adamu, however, gave the assurance that the police command would not hesitate to "nip in the bud" any sign of religious uprising and called on the public to inform the police of any suspicious religious movement.

The police commissioner also called for a more cordial relationship between the press and the police in the state, adding that the police and journalists pursued similar goals of ensuring peace, law and order.

On Sunday the Women's Teachers College, Maiduguri, was closed down following religious disturbances.

SENEGAL

President Diouf Assesses Trip to Mauritania

AB132215 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar this afternoon. The head of state is returning from a few hours' visit to Mauritania. He was welcomed on arrival by the president of the National Assembly and the president of the Economic and Social Council, along with members of the government. Several other dignitaries were also at the airport. Listen to the head of state speaking to the press:

[Begin Diouf recording] I am returning very satisfied from Nouakchott, where I just paid a working visit of a few hours at the invitation of my brother and friend, President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. President Haydala and I have decided to meet as often as possible to strengthen and consolidate the already excellent cooperation between Mauritania and Senegal. During this visit, we examined all issues of bilateral cooperation between the two countries, and we were impressed to note that this cooperation is going well. That is the first reason for my satisfaction. The second reason is that President Haydala and myself had an extensive exchange of views during the few hours at our disposal on African problems and the current world political and economic problems. On these issues also our views were very similar. That is the second reason for our satisfaction.

The third reason for satisfaction is that, for a working visit of just few hours, I observed that the people of Nouakchott were mobilized as if it were an official visit. It was an exceptionally popular mobilization to honor the Senegalese delegation I was heading, and I must express my very fraternal gratitude to President Haydala, his government, and his people. [end recording]

TOGO

Eyadema Decrees Period of Mourning for Andropov

AB141550 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] To mark the solidarity of the Togolese people with the Soviet people, the government of General Eyadema yesterday decreed a 48-hour national mourning period in memory of President Yuriy Andropov, and since yesterday the flags have been flown flying at half mast throughout the country. It must be noted that the president of the Republic was represented at the burial rites of Mr Andropov by our ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Eyadema Receives Message From Upper Volta's Sankara

AB141605 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The head of state, President Eyadema, received in audience Mr Ernest Nongma Ouedraogo, the secretary of state for interior and security of Upper Volta. He brought a message from the Upper Voltan head of state, Chairman Thomas Sankara, to General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

Eyadema, UMOA Delegation Discuss Mali Readmission

AB142045 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, the founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally and head of state, this morning received at the Presidential Palace of the Republic in Lome a delegation of the West African Monetary Union, UMOA, led by Mr Mamadou Toure, the minister of economy and finance of Senegal, who is also the current chairman of the UMOA Council of Ministers. Another member of the delegation is Mr Abdoulaye Fadiga, who is the governor general of the Central Bank of West African States, BCEAO. Present at the audience was Mr Tete Tevi-Benissan, the minister of finance and economy. During this audience, discussions centered on problems relating to the readmission of Mali into the UMOA, which was decided upon during the financial institution's summit last October.

[Begin Toure recording] I was just received by the president of the Republic, and the purpose of my visit is to hold talks with his excellency on problems relating to the decision made by the UMOA heads of state conference last October concerning the membership of Mali to the UMOA. I am currently on a mission to all the member countries of the UMOA to get the respective heads of state to sign the agreement on Mali's membership in the UMOA. Yesterday, we had the honor of being received by President Kerekou, who is the current UMOA chairman and who is charged by his peers with the coordination of all matters relating to the Union. We have followed this audience with Kerekou by the one that I had today with His Excellency President Eyadema.

Many details are yet to be furnished, and many things still remain to be done, among which are technical negotiations to determine the exact position of the Malian bank of issue and the position of the bank of issue of UMOA member countries. Negotiation sessions were held 2 years ago when there was a question of their imminent membership in the UMOA. It will therefore be a question of bringing these negotiations up to date in order to determine the technical problems and to resolve them together with the problem of the constitutional procedures in our various states, because it will be a question of having the convention, once it is signed by the heads of state, ratified according to the respective constitutional procedures, and there still will be some other tasks that will be necessary. The substance of the problem is the technical negotiations that will begin between the bank of issue of Mali and the Central Bank of West African States, which can be started very soon, I think, in a few days time. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

1984 Budget Contains 5 Billion CFA Deficit

AB140750 Paris AFP in French 1838 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, 10 Feb (AFP) — Upper Volta Finance Minister Justin Damo Barro presented Upper Volta's 1984 budget on Thursday with a deficit of over 5 billion CFA (Fr 100 million), contrary to the communique issued on 18 January 1984 announcing, without comments, a balanced budget of 57.6 billion CFA, observers noted. In view of the estimated receipts of 57.6 billion CFA, the minister gave the following details on the state expenditure: recurrent budget, 38.8 billion CFA; debt service, 12.3 billion CFA (almost twice as much as last year); capital budget, 9.21 billion CFA; pension and allocation, 2.35 billion CFA, for a total of 62.6 billion.

"The revolutionary regime has already found the additional resources" needed, said the minister, who did not specify the nature of the resources, or if there were plans for negotiations with the Paris Club aimed at rescheduling the country's debt.

According to the minister, the debt service, with 21 percent of the budget, caused by the soaring dollar since 1980, accounts for the "deflationary and recessionary" budget, which shows a reduction in the resources available for the functioning of the state at the bare minimum but which is still "geared toward the satisfaction of the people's needs."

The minister particularly pointed out the "sacrifices" required from the 26,000 public servants whose allocations will be reduced by 25 to 50 percent.

The sacrifices, he said, will be used to facilitate the implementation of four major projects: the establishment of a public transport system in urban centers aiong with the construction of intercity road links; the construction of low-cost housing; the extension of the Bobo Dioulasso airport (360 kms west of Ouagadougou); and the construction of a dam on Sourou River (in the west of the country), the valley of which will be developed for agriculture.

The minister further announced that important economic measures were being drafted touching on the strict control of the prices of essential commodities and drugs, reductions in rental rates, halt to land speculation, cuts in the private school fee rates, and so on.

Lastly, he appealed to the people to make true the slogan "rely first and principally on your own strength" in order to achieve the objectives of this "revolutionary budget," which, according to him, safeguards public interest and the true independence of Upper Volta."

Mozambique, RSA, Portugal Begin Cahora Bassa Talks

MB141941 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Delegations from Mozambique, Portugal, and South Africa met in the Portuguese capital, Lisbon, today to discuss problems involving the Cahora Bassa Dam in northwestern Mozambique. The dam was built by the Portuguese in the 1960's, mainly to supply electricity to South Africa, although since independence power lines have been erected from Cahora Bassa across the north of Mozambique. The meeting, which was to discuss the future of the complex, was set up during discussions between officials of the Mozambique and South African working groups in Maputo last month. The Mozambique delegation in Lisbon is headed by Industry and Energy Minister Antonio Branco.

RSA Sends Deputy Minister

MB141530 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Important discussions on the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric project began this afternoon in Lisbon between delegations from Portugal, South Africa and Mozambique. The South African team to the talks is being led by Mr Louis Nel, the deputy minister of foreign affairs. According to reports, the talks will, among other matters, cover the existing agreement between South Africa and Mozambique on the supply of electric power from Cahora Bassa and the security of the power line within Mozambican territory. Our Africa desk reports that the power line from Cahora Bassa to the Apollo substation near Pretoria has been out of order since the end of last year.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Message From Algeria's Bendjedid

MB141414 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic, received in audience in Luanda today an Algerian parliamentary delegation led by Abdelaziz Mohamed, who delivered a personal message from Chadli Bendjedid, Algerian head of state. (Casimiro Sergio Franco), second secretary of the People's Assembly, attended the audience given by the Angolan head of state to the Algerian delegation.

The delegation of the Algerian National Assembly has been visiting the People's Republic of Angola since last Thursday and holding talks with (Casimiro Sergio Franco).

FAPLA Recruitment Program Proceeding 'Smoothly'

AB141610 Luanda ANGOP in French 1236 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Cabinda, 13 Feb (ANGOP) — A FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] mobilization and recruitment program aimed at youth who have attained military age has been proceeding smoothly since 10 January in Cabinda, the chief town of the province of the same name, it was learned from sources close to the recruitment and mobilization center. According to these sources, this phase shows once again the high degree of revolutionary consciousness of Angolan youth faced with the need to defend the territorial integrity of the country.

U.S. Involved in RSA-Israel Nuclear Weapons Project

MB141922 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The criminal collaboration among the countries of the imperialist bloc is carried out through the (?indiscriminate) construction of weapons. This has been stated by ANGOP in a commentary published in Luanda yesterday. ANGOP also states that the implementation of a joint project for the manufacture of nuclear weapons by South Africa and Israel is only designed to intimidate the states of southern Africa and the Middle East. It is also an indication that imperialist aggression in those two regions will be strengthened, contrary to what South Africa has tried to make people believe with regard to its willingness to cooperate in a constructive manner for the reestablishment of peace and concord.

ANGOP also points out the direct implication of the United States in all this criminal activity, giving as evidence the fact that American (?expertise) and specialists have widely been (?used) by Israel and South Africa for the implementation of their macabre projects.

LESOTHO

King, Prime Minister Congratulate Chernenko

MB141910 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] His majesty Motlotlegi Moshoeshoe II and the prime minister, the right honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, have sent messages of congratulations to President Konstantin Chernenko for having been elected as the leader of the Soviet Union. In his message, his majesty said they have great pleasure in congratulating Mr Chernenko upon his succession to the position of secretary general of the CPSU, as well as chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. Motlotlegi said they trust that under his wise leadership, his country will lead the way towards the achievement of international peace and prosperity and a reduction of tensions. He said he hoped that the happy relations existing between the Kingdom of Lesotho and the USSR will grow from strength to strength for the mutual benefit of the two countries. His majesty wished President Chernenko good health and happiness in the vital years that lie ahead.

In his message, the prime minister said on behalf of the government and the people of Lesotho he wishes to send Mr Chernenko most sincere congratulations as he takes up his new office to lead the Soviet Union. The prime minister said he hoped the happy relations existing between the two countries can be further strengthened for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries. Dr Jonathan wished Mr Chernenko personal good health and happiness in the years that lie ahead.

Foreign Minister Sekhonyana Denies Refugee Clampdown

MB150717 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr E.R. Sekhonyana, in response to the South African Television news last night, said that there was no clampdown on South African refugees in Lesotho. The allegation was made last night by the South African Television commentator, Mr Chris Saunders, who alleged that Lesotho was among southern African countries that were clamping down on the refugees of the ANC of South Africa. The minister said that Lesotho will continue with its policy of providing political asylum to all political refugees who accepted asylum on condition that they could not use Lesotho as a springboard for violence against neighboring countries. He added that as far as the Lesotho Government was aware, no political refugees who had accepted asylum in Lesotho had undermined this condition.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel-Led Delegation Attends Andropov Funeral

MB141650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] It has been announced in Moscow that 150 foreign delegations attended the funeral service of the outstanding Soviet leader, Yuriy Andropov, which took place today in Red Square. Several heads of state and government could be seen in attendance, as well as leaders of communist and labour parties and of national liberation movements.

Meanwhile, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda sent a message of congratulations to Konstantin Chernenko upon his election to the post of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Kenneth Kaunda says in his message that he is very pleased to learn of the election of Konstantin Chernenko to lead the party of a country whose inhabitants are comrades in arms in the struggle for human dignity, freedom, peace, self-determination, and independence.

It will be recalled that the Frelimo Party and the Mozambique state are represented at the funeral service of Yuriy Andropov in Moscow by an important delegation led by President Samora Machel. The delegation also includes Joaquim Chissano, secretary of the party Central Committee for external relations and minister of foreign affairs; Armando Panguene, the secretary of the party's Central Committee and deputy minister of defense; and Jose Carlos Lobo, member of the party's Central Committee and minister of mineral resources.

Machel Meets With Mengistu

MB150739 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Yesterday in Moscow, President Samora Machel met Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian head of state and OAU chairman, with whom he discussed issues connected with the African Continent, particularly the situation in Chad and Western Sahara. Also yesterday, the Mozambique head of state held a meeting with Commander Daniel Ortega, chairman of the coordinating junta of the Government of Nicaragua. At the meeting, the two leaders spoke about the situation in their respective countries and their actions in the struggle for the reestablishment of peace and security in the respective regions.

It is worth recalling that also yesterday in Moscow, President Samora Machel was received by Konstantin Chernenko, the general secretary of the CPSU.

Joint European, Lome Convention Delegation Arrives

MB141516 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A joint delegation composed of representatives of the Lome Convention and the European Parliament arrived in Maputo today on the seventh stage of an African tour. While in Mozambique, the delegation will conduct an inquiry into South Africa's acts of destabilization against neighboring countries, especially Mozambique. The delegation has already been to Angola, Zambia, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Lesotho. The results of the inquiries made in the seven countries will be presented at a meeting of the Lome Convention to be held next week in Brazzaville.

Military Conscription Rising in Gaza Province

MB141024 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The influx of young men to military registration centers is increasing in Gaza Province, according to information received from the Maputo-Gaza interprovincial radio station. The head of the regional registration center said that the morale of the youngsters who register for the compulsory military service is very high due to the mobilization work carried out by party and state structures. We recall that the military conscription, which started on 2 January, will go on until 2 March this year.

NAMIBIA

Commentary Denies SWAPO Fighting in Angola

MB150509 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Due to SWAPO's intensified military action and the active anticolonial resistance by the Namibian masses, the racist regime has resorted to a wholesale campaign of terror and increasing brutal repression against the popular masses, and in particular against members and supporters of SWAPO in our country. The massacres of Cassinga, Otshatotwa, Oshikuku, Omashaka, Epinga, and many other places where hundreds of our innocent patriots lay buried in mass graves are vivid testimony and clear manifestations of the Boer genocidal philosophy. Furthermore, in its desperate attempts, because of its failure to effectively fight against PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] combatants inside Namibia, the racist Pretoria regime

has intensified its military aggression against independent neighboring sovereign states, especially the People's Republic of Angola, under the pretext of the so-called pursuit of SWAPO fighters.

But comrades and fellow compatriots, the truth is that we are fighting in Namibia, not in Angola. It is inside Namibia and not in Angola where we have been confronting the Boers militarily since 1966, and we will continue to wage our protracted war for national liberation until the illegal regime is totally defeated and is forced to withdraw its colonial administration in order to pave a way for democratic change and establish a people's government in our country.

As a result of PLAN's effectiveness, the enemy has now become very suspicious, even of its own men in its army, police, and other administrative institutions in Namibia. Therefore, the racist army, in response to PLAN's blows, has suspended night driving along the Rundu-Grootfontein road after 1800 and before 0730. Still in the same area, the enemy created a so-called bush-free sweep of 300 meters wide on either side of the 110 km road to protect them from PLAN fighters. Bulldozers and poisonous defoliants have been used. Botha's troops have converted the Kavango region into a broad shooting range. They shoot everything at random. Hundreds of people have been massacred, and thousands uprooted from their traditional homes and fertile lands, only to become fugitives in their own countries. They have been forced to squatters' camps with no waterborne sewerage. Dear compatriots, we call upon you, all valiant sons and daughters of Namibia, to unite and rally behind SWAPO in order that the [words indistinct] political commitment, we redouble our efforts towards the realization of our noble aims and objectives.

Let each and every one of us do something to hasten the process for the national liberation of our country and the achievement of our national independence this year. It will put an end to the colonialism and racist oppression in our country. But to deliver the final blows against foreign domination and exploitation and to ensure freedom, peace, and human dignity of our people is not simple. It requires that we continue mobilizing ourselves to the fullest extent to work towards unity of all progressive-minded and patriotic forces of our population.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha To Attend Lusaka Talks on Namibia, Angola

MB151244 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1238 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 15, SAPA — South Africa would tomorrow join Angola and the United States in Lusaka for talks on the cessation of hostilities in the S.W.A./Namibian border area, the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, said today. Reacting to press inquiries about the possibility of tripartite talks, Mr Botha confirmed that he would lead the South African delegation to Lusaka tomorrow to confer with the Angolan and American teams "on the cessation of hostilities in the border areas of S.W.A. and Angola, and on steps that may be needed to ensure a restraint of hostilities."

In a statement released in Cape Town he added the negotiations would probably also cover the "wider problems of the region."

Mr Botha's delegation will include the minister of defence, Gen Magnus Malan, the director-general of foreign affairs, Mr Hans van Dalsen, the South African ambassador to the United States, Dr Brand Fourie, the director-general of national intelligence, and other senior officials.

Target Dates Assigned for Colored, Indian Chambers

MB141515 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1458 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 14, SAPA — Elections and not referendums would be held for Coloureds and Asians and the first major session of South Africa's new tricameral parliament should take place at the beginning of 1985, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today. The three chambers would probably convene early in September this year, after elections for Coloureds and Indians, to constitute an electoral college for the election of a state president and speaker, he announced at a press conference in Cape Town.

The government had decided to hold elections, and not referendums, for both the Coloured and the Indian communities.

The minister of internal affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said at the same conference that August 22 had been set as a target date for the election of members of the House of Representatives (Coloureds) as well as the House of Delegates (Indians). The delimitation of electoral divisions, their division into polling districts and the rearranging of voters in these could be completed by mid-June.

"Proclamation of the elections can then take place on June 22, with nomination day on July 16 and polling day on August 22," Mr de Klerk said. His department, which deals with the logistics of such matters, would work according to this programme, but the minister emphasised the ultimate polling date would be binding "when it is promulgated by proclamation."

Referring to the government's decision to hold an election instead of a referendum for the Indian community, Mr Heunis said the South African Indian Council, which had requested a referendum, "accepts the government has complied with its undertakings" to consult with the various organisations within the community. The S.A.I.C. had undertaken to comply with the government's final decision in the matter.

Mr Heunis explained the S.A.I.C. had acknowledged, in view of the recent formation of other political groupings within the Indian community, that it was not the only body to be consulted. During negotiations and consultations with the Indian community, divergent views on the question of an election or a referendum had been transmitted to him by various parties and groups.

From this it was "clear that differences also exist within the ranks of the same organisations on the question whether a referendum should be held prior participation in the new constitutional

dispensation. In spite of the differences of opinion in the ranks of the Indian community it was possible for the government to form a picture of the sentiments on this matter of the peoples of the communities concerned," Mr Heunis said.

Referring to the decision to hold an election for Coloureds, he said the three acknowledged parties concerned maintained the standpoint that a referendum should not be held for their community.

It was in view of the Indian sentiments and the Coloured political parties' standpoints that the government had decided no referendums would be held.

"I trust the Coloured and Indian communities will utilise the opportunity to participate actively in the elections and I hope they will be afforded the opportunity by others to freely participate in the democratic process without intimidation," Mr Heunis said.

Asked if he had anything to say about rumours of a simultaneous election for whites, Mr Heunis said he could not react to speculation.

In response to another question, Mr de Klerk said the closing date for the compilation of voters rolls for the Coloured and Indian communities would probably be in May. The immediate objective of parties participating in the elections should therefore be to ensure the registration of as many voters as possible.

Police Begin Removing Inhabitants of Magopa

MB150914 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Feb 84 p 1

[By Sophie Tema]

[Text] The village of Magopa has been declared an Operational Area and no photographs are allowed to be taken in the area. This was confirmed by police in the village yesterday when two members of the Black Sash were forbidden from entering the area, near Ventersdorp in the Western Transvaal, and refused permission to take pictures. A *RAND DAILY MAIL* photographer was also forbidden from taking pictures in the village.

Meanwhile, the head of the Magopa tribe, Chief Isaac More, was forcefully taken by police from his kraal yesterday morning after he tried to barricade himself in his bedroom in protest against the removals.

By late yesterday police reported that about 27 families had been voluntarily moved to Pachsdraai — the area to which the tribe is being moved. The removals come after nearly three months of delaying the resettlement because of widespread outcry.

A police spokesman confirmed yesterday that Chief More was the first to be moved. He had at first resisted but finally gave in. Angry residents said yesterday police pounced on Chief More and his followers and warned them to get ready to be moved to Pachsdraai. They claim police warned villagers not to leave the area, and if they left their homes in a bid to escape being removed, the doors would be broken down and their belongings taken away. Some families claim they were told by police and officials of the Department of Co-operation and Development that they would be moved to Pachsdraai by today, whether they liked it or not.

Residents claim the police moved into the area at about 4 am and set up tents barricading all entrances that led into the village stopping anybody — including the villagers themselves — from leaving or entering the area without being escorted by Security Police. About 100 policemen from Potchefstroom and Venters dorp scanned the village all day and warned residents not to move out. The families that were moved yesterday are those who refused to move from Magopa when about 300 were voluntarily taken to Pachsdraai in June last year.

Meanwhile, the *MAIL*'s Political staff reports from Cape Town that the Progressive Federal Party MP, Mrs Helen Suzman, yesterday lashed out at the Government's action in Magopa, calling it "total madness." Mrs Suzman said she had contacted the Minister of Cooperation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, as soon as she was told police were moving people out of the village. She said Dr Koornhof had promised he would look into the matter.

"If this is true, the Government is displaying the most remarkable insensitivity. It knows perfectly well that the last attempt at removing people at Magopa made headline stories in the major newspapers overseas such as *THE WASHINGTON POST* and *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, giving adverse publicity at a time when the U.S. Congress was considering punitive measures against South Africa," she said.

The removal had been raised in Parliament by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, who said there had been gross misrepresentations about the Magopa situation. "In fact the Minister was giving misinformation and clearly had not checked his facts," Mrs Suzman said. Mr Botha had, for example, said the two men with the name "More" were brothers engaged in a family quarrel. "The two men, in fact, were not related."

Mr Botha had referred to "squatters" at the Magopa village but "in fact the Mogopa people have had title deed to their lands since 1913." He had said the people did not have fresh water but "they had boreholes until the pumps were stolen," Mrs Suzman said. She also said the More who had agreed to move from the village had, in fact, been deposed as headman of the tribe.

Mrs Suzman pointed out that the United States Congress had recently resumed sitting and South Africa was again one of the subjects under discussion. "Does the Government never learn not to indulge in provocative actions which raises the ire of the world?" she asked. She also said "one of the tragic facts of this ugly business yesterday is that the people have just rebuilt the school which was bulldozed last year."

Removals Proceeding 'Smoothly'

MB151013 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0946 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 15, SAPA — The removal of villagers from Mogopa in the western Transvaal was being conducted "smoothly" with the cooperation of many of the inhabitants, a spokesman for the Police Public Relations Division said in Pretoria today.

Reacting to a report that police had moved into Mogopa yesterday and forcefully removed the head of the tribe, Chief Isaac More, the spokesman said Chief More had been persuaded to leave his kraal voluntarily for Pachsdraai.

"The removal is being conducted with the cooperation of the local people," he said. So far, 27 families had moved voluntarily.

He countered a charge yesterday that the village of Mogopa had been declared an operational area. "Mogopa is not an operational area but a trust area, and the normal procedure is that a permit is required for a trust area."

"The removal is not being undertaken purely as a police operation, but is being handled by the Department of Cooperation and Development. We are there to maintain law and order," he said.

Last 80 Families Moving

MB151019 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The removal of people from Magopa in the Western Transvaal is continuing. The last 80 families are being moved to Pachsdraai, earmarked for incorporation into Bophuthatswana. More than 50 government trucks and buses have moved into the village to remove the inhabitants and their possessions.

Meanwhile, the Police Public Relations Division in Pretoria have said that many of the inhabitants are cooperating in the removal. Yesterday, police warned that force would be used if the villagers resisted. The spokesperson has reacted to a report that Chief Isaac More had been forcibly removed. He says Chief More was persuaded to leave voluntarily.

Azanian Student Group Calls for Day of Mourning

MB150536 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1544 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 14, SAPA — The Azanian Students Movement [AZASM] today called on headmasters of secondary schools throughout the country to declare Thursday a day of mourning following the death of a 15-year-old Atteridgeville schoolgirl. Emma Sathekge died in the Kalafong Hospital yesterday after violence broke out at the D.H. High School.

In a statement issued in Johannesburg today, AZASM pledged its solidarity with the school boycott and appealed to headmasters to suspend classes and all activity at secondary schools on Thursday. It also requested students to wear a black cloth or armband as a symbol of mourning.

AZASM said the pupils' action was a "clear indication that the seeds of discontent are deteriorating" among the students. "It is, however, not without regret that AZASM takes the occasion of that unfortunate death to reiterate that the arrogant and intransigent attitude of the authorities in dealing with the legimate demands of the students is mutually destructive."

The statement conveyed its sympathies to the family of the dead girl and to the students who were injured.

ANC Influence in Region Said Lessening

MB141615 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Station commentary: "The African National Congress"]

[Text] The ANC terrorist organization has been striking some unpleasant headwinds in southern Africa and further afield, and these could serve to curtail its activities in South Africa. The ANC is running into problems it never faced before, and the leadership corps is obviously disturbed, as it should be when the recent record of events is examined.

That the ANC is confronted with difficulties over a broad front in southern Africa and not just within single or isolated states became apparent in its reaction to the stand towards South Africa taken by the nine-nation Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] at its annual meeting in Lusaka. The SADCC welcomed signs of a less aggressive stance from South Africa, and urged international pressure to bring about peaceful change in the region. The ANC's director of information, (Thabo Mbeki), severely criticized what he called this compromise position, and rejected any attempts at detente with South Africa. Also worthy of note was ANC surprise that it had not been invited to attend the SADCC meeting. In the past, such meetings had been attended by both the ANC and SWAPO.

One of the biggest single blows to the ANC appears to be developing in Mozambique, where the authorities are showing heightened interest in normalizing relations with South Africa. For some time now Mozambique has been the main springboard for the terrorist onslaught against South Africa. This because Swaziland had definitely clamped down on ANC activities, while the signs from Lesotho are that the government realises that the more blatant terrorist strikes into South Africa lead to events which do not benefit Lesotho.

What these developments appear to indicate overall is that initiatives aimed at promoting regional peace in southern Africa are gaining momentum. The implications for the ANC are far-reaching. Although it is too much to expect that the frontline states will renounce the ANC, observers say there is a strong likelihood that the frontline states will urge the ANC to abandon the armed struggle from neighboring states, this because of the effects it is having on them. As one Mozambican official told journalist [Pierre Huskie]: If we continued our past policies, there would soon be nothing left to destroy in Mozambique.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Bhekimpi Sends Condolences to USSR

MB141730 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, today sent a message of condolence to the Soviet Union following the death last week of Soviet President Yuriy Andropov. The message reads in part, and I quote:

I have a sad duty in command from her majesty, the Indlovukazi and Queen Regent Ntombi of the Kingdom of Swaziland, to convey on her behalf and the entire Swazi nation our deepest condolences at the shocking news of the untimely demise of His Excellency President Yuriy Andropov.

It continues: It is our fervent hope and prayer that the passing away of his excellency will not dampen the spirits of the Government of the USSR on its course for world peace and tranquillity. We also wish the bereaved family comfort at this dark hour of sadness.

The message was conveyed through the Soviet Embassy in Maputo, Mozambique.

Queen Regent Ntombi's Speech to Parliament

MB150659 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The queen regent, Ntombi, has said the Swazi nation cannot condone acts of unpatriotism, sedition, and treason that have become apparent and continue to do so. [as heard] In a speech read on her behalf by Liqoqo member Mr Abednigo Kuseni Hlophe during the official opening of the first session of Swaziland's Fourth Parliament, the queen regent said so far the government had acted with restraint. Where detention orders were issued, it was with reluctance and with the desire to ensure national security, she said.

[Begin Hlophe recording] The position [as heard] of the Fourth Parliament of the Kingdom of Swaziland was to have witnessed the presentation of a budget designed to counter inflationary tendencies, to contain soaring unemployment figures, and to provide a take-off incentive to an economic device [as heard] devitalized by a world-wide recession and shattered by the effects of the worst drought in the living memory. The gods have always smiled on the people of this region. We have somehow escaped the ravages and desolation of natural calamities, when others were being pounded by hurricanes, cyclones, volcanoes, and earthquakes. Our turn came on the week, beginning 29 January 1984. Mad Domoina descended on the night of Saturday, 28 January 1984. Never before have we witnessed such an instantaneous and absolute devastation. In the wake of the deluge bridges have collapsed, roads washed away, the railways breached, homes razed to the ground, and many killed. My government is continuing in its efforts to assess the damage caused. In terms of human suffering and misery and loss of life, we know the damage is incalculable. In terms of actual loss and damage to property, the figure rises with each report that comes in. As we talk, the figure hovers around the 50-million emalangeni mark, and by the end of the day, when all the reports are in, we shall be looking at 100 million emalangeni or more.

Mr President, although priority attention is being given to the disaster situation, which I have just outlined, life must continue. The Government has had, therefore, within the financial constraints imposed on us by the present economic climate, to allocate meager resources to insatiable needs. The formulas adopted have varied with each ministry depending on past performance, the strategic importance of the ministry in our present plight, and the future expected contribution of the ministry to the total welfare of the entire nation. The government continues to follow the economic policy of private and free enterprise, with an element of government participation thrown in where reasons of economic stability and industrial protection so dictate. The country's economic performance has fluctuated sharply during recent years. In the last five years, 1978 to 1983, the average growth rate of the gross domestic product in real terms has been estimated at 5.6 percent. In 1982, we recorded a downturn from 7.9 percent the previous year to 2.7 percent, a figure lower than the present rate of population increase.

Mr President, honorable members, and distinguished guests: It remains our policy and that of our government to follow on the footsteps of our great leader, King Sobhuza II. This is particularly so in matters pertaining to foreign policy and international relations. We shall pursue a vigorous policy of active neutrality. The Manzane [site of talks with frontline states' leaders] diplomacy continues to advocate roundtable negotiations where there are disputes. Swaziland believes in self-determination for Namibia, but Swaziland equally believes that the only guaranteed way to that self-determination lies via the negotiating table. We continue to counsel SWAPO and South Africa to get together and peacefully resolve their differences.

Swaziland, Mr President, is now more than ever before greatly concerned that we continue to have no internationally and mutually recognized borders with our neighbor, the Republic of South Africa. This subject has been on the negotiating table since the beginning of this century. We now begin to hear uninformed voices telling us about trampling human rights and other such issues. Our demands and our negotiations are for the return of what is historically, culturally, and geographically part of our land. This is no nation. [as heard] There is no nation without land, as there is no revolution without land. Let everyone here present know that we shall pursue all avenues, short of war, to have our land returned. Recognize the fact that in the interim there has been vast human ecological changes on our land because of migration and various ethnic groups. This does not stop the land being ours. We are prepared to offer those who have since settled on this land the privileges, rights, and responsibilities of being Swazi citizens, but we are not prepared to be told by anyone that we forfeit ownership to an interim occupant.

We cannot conclude this speech without referring again to the subject of law and order. To attain peace, good government, and prosperity, we need good and just laws. Our concern is that our laws as they stand are outmoded and completely out of touch with modern Swaziland. In this context, the Law Review and Devel-

opment Commission assumes great significance. On the recommendation of cabinet, and advised by the Liqoqo, I intend reconstituting this commission and require that it immediately thereafter look forward to this Parliament to concern itself with new and just laws with unabated enthusiasm. With these words, Mr President, I now have the pleasure of declaring this first session of the Fourth Parliament of the Kingdom of Swaziland officially open. [Audience shouts in Siswati "Hail Your Highness"][end recording]

She added that in view of our economic situation, unnecessary public spending and idle wastage of government time and facilities was now prohibited. She charged every public servant to be guided by his or her own conscience in this regard. On the financial front, she said the government revenues have been relatively static for the past few years. The queen regent continued that millions of emalangeni in taxes and returnable funds remain uncollected by government. In this regard, government intends strengthening and giving more power to that section of the Commissioner of Taxes which enforces prompt payment of taxes, she said. She added that in the last 5 years the investment climate of Swaziland has been allowed to stagnate, but noted that efforts were being made to reverse the situation. She cited the construction of a casino hotel complex in Pigg's Peak due to be completed this year.

After the official opening, the speaker of the House of Assembly, Mr Seth Dlamini, announced that the House of Assembly would meet on 24 February, while the Senate will meet on 1 March to debate the budget expected to be presented by the minister of finance on 24 February.

ZAMBIA

Riots Reported at University 14 Feb; Calm Returns

MB150722 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Some semblance of peace and calm returned to the embattled (Grettace Road) campus of the University of Zambia yesterday afternoon following a morning of destruction by rioting students. The campus, which early yesterday resembled a battleground, complete with smoking and charred vehicles, was later quiet. Armed police were still manning the main entrance to the university and were closely questioning and scrutinizing everyone who entered the campus grounds to ascertain their identities. By late last night, the fate of the university was not yet clear, and police have not issued any statement on how many students had been picked up.

Government Rebuffs Students' Demands

AB151200 Paris AFP in English 0955 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Lusaka, Feb 15 (AFP) — Zambian Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said the government will not yield to the demands by university students that led to yesterday's rioting in Lusaka.

An undetermined number of people were hurt and some students arrested in the disturbances.

Mr Mundia, speaking in parliament a few hours after the rioting, said the government of President Kenneth Kaunda was determined to help University of Zambia authorities enforce discipline at the Lusaka campus, which has 3,000 students.

About 2,000 students took to the streets, burning vehicles and beating bystanders, after a dawn swoop yesterday by police against student activists who have been protesting against restrictions on admission to their dining hall and rules barring the presence of women in male dormitories after 10 p.m.

The government (?will not) allow female students to stay in the rooms of male students as had been demanded, Mr Mundia told the house. "No government can do that," he said.

Mr Mundia said police were expected to make a statement later today on the rioting.

Armed police were called out yesterday to stop the protectors from marching on State House to see Mr Kaunda, and a police spokesman said some demonstrators were arrested.

Prime Minister Speaks on Worsening Mining Operations

MB150805 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said that operations at all divisions of the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines [ZCCM] have been worsened due to lack of equipment, spare parts, and consumable stores. Mr Mundia, who was winding up the debate on the estimates on the expenditure for the minister of mines, said production losses have as a result continued to worsen despite efforts to maintain a run-down plant and equipment. The prime minister told parliament that (?deployed) reserves available for mining in both open-pit and underground mines have become low with inadequate foreign allocations and have placed both the short- and medium-term production capacity in jeopardy. He, however, noted that due to the important role that the mining industry plays as the country's main foreign exchange earner, the government had taken measures to rehabilitate it. Mr Mundia said although the ZCCM intensified the program of cost-saving measures introduced in 1982, which by September 1983 have saved 85 million kwacha, the company nevertheless suffered losses because of the losses of the pound sterling, in which copper is priced.

The problem affecting the ZCCM, he said, also affected the (Mamba) Collieries Limited, which failed to reach the budgeted production target mainly due to spare parts shortages. He informed the house that ongoing projects of the ZCCM which form part of rehabilitation program have been progressing fairly well.

ZIMBABWE

Trade Minister Urges Increased Aid From EEC

MB141914 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Richard Hove, has urged the EEC to provide more assistance to the African, Caribbean, and Pacific, ACP, countries. Comrade Hove was speaking at a news conference in Harare today on his return from Brussels, where he attended a meeting of the EEC and the ACP. He said aid to the ACP countries should be increased, because trade in the EEC has now flourished while that in the ACP has declined. Comrade Hove said during the Lome II negotiations the ACP had been able to acquire only 6,000 million dollars, instead of the 11,000 million dollars they had requested. The minister also said Zimbabwe is not able to send beef to the EEC because of tariff barriers.

Zambian Delegation Arrives on Official Visit

MB150735 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpts] A Zambian ministerial delegation has arrived in Harare for a meeting of the Zimbabwe-Zambia Joint Commission. The delegation is led by the Zambian minister of development and planning, Dr Henry Meebelo, who told newsmen on arrival yesterday that various issues will be discussed at the meeting, which starts tomorrow. The deputy minister of finance, economic planning and development, Comrade Moton Malianga, welcomed the visitors at the airport.